FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-122
Monday
28 June 1993

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-122 CONTENTS *28 June 1993*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- Cairns Agricultural Group Holds Bangkok Meeting ... 1
  - Thai Minister on Uruguay Round Link *[Bangkok Radio]* ... 1
  - Australian Officials on Group's Goals *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 26 Jun]* ... 1
  - New Zealand on Blair House Agreement *[Bangkok THE NATION 26 Jun]* ... 2
  - Thai Minister on Trade Strategy *[Bangkok THE NATION 27 Jun]* ... 3
  - EC Official Urges Open ASEAN Markets *[Bangkok THE NATION 27 Jun]* ... 4
  - Group Issues 'Bangkok Declaration' *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 28 Jun]* ... 4
  - Group Ministers Hold News Conference *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 28 Jun]* ... 6
  - Minister on Cairns Meeting Outcome *[Bangkok TV]* ... 7

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

- Tokyo Delays Comment on U.S. Bombing of Iraq *[KYODO]* ... 8
  - States Concern Over Casualties *[KYODO]* ... 8
  - Group Protests Attack *[KYODO]* ... 8
- Business Lauds Inauguration of Shinseito Party *[KYODO]* ... 9
- Opposition Politicians on Current Situation *[Tokyo TV]* ... 9
- 950 Candidates To Run in Jul General Election *[KYODO]* ... 11
- Kaifu To Use Elections To Strengthen Reformists *[Tokyo TV]* ... 12
- Miyazawa To 'Make Every Effort' To Regain Trust *[KYODO]* ... 12
- Five Opposition Heads Agree on Coalition Idea *[KYODO]* ... 12
  - Hold News Conference *[KYODO]* ... 12
- JNP To Field More Candidates for Jul Election *[KYODO]* ... 13
- Hosokawa: LDP Rule on 'Verge of Collapse' *[KYODO]* ... 13
- Tokyo Voter Turnout Rate at Record Low *[KYODO]* ... 14
  - JNP Gains; LDP Increases Slightly *[KYODO]* ... 15
  - Kono: Voters 'Honoring' LDP *[KYODO]* ... 16
  - Dailies Comment on Results *[KYODO]* ... 16
- Police on Alert for G-7 Summit, Election *[KYODO]* ... 16
- G-7 Deputy Finance Ministers Lay Summit Groundwork *[KYODO]* ... 17
- G-7 Declaration To Mention 'Surplus' States *[KYODO]* ... 18
- Miyazawa Going Into G-7 Summit as 'Lame Duck' *[KYODO]* ... 18
- Quadrilateral Talks Set in Toronto for 30 Jun *[KYODO]* ... 19
- U.S., Japanese Experts Want Clear Stock Rules *[KYODO]* ... 19
- Computer Industry: Market Not Closed to U.S. *[KYODO]* ... 19
- Tokyo, Washington Open Preliminary Trade Talks *[KYODO]* ... 20
- U.S. 'Likely To Defer' Construction Sanctions *[KYODO]* ... 20
- Tokyo Panel Challenges U.S. Trade Policy *[KYODO]* ... 21
- Split With U.S. Over Numerical Trade Targets *[KYODO]* ... 21
- 'Low-Profile' Trade Talks With U.S. Progress *[KYODO]* ... 21
- Indian Minister on Perceived Protectionism *[KYODO]* ... 22
  - Urges N-S 'Informal' Dialogue *[KYODO]* ... 22

North Korea

- 'Sources': Pyongyang, Israel Held Beijing Talks *[Tokyo KYODO]* ... 23
- Premier Issues Statement on North-South Talks *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 23
  - South Position on Talks 'Unjust' *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 24

KCNA Criticizes Kim Yong-sam on BBC Interview 25
  NODONG SINMUN Comments on Remarks *[Pyongyang Radio]* 26
  Further NODONG SINMUN Comments *[KCNA]* 27
Daily Urges Disbanding South's Security Board *[KCNA]* 27
Daily Urges Removal of South's Security Law *[KCNA]* 28
KCNA Views South Plan To Purchase U.S. Missiles 28
SKNDF Denounces Ulchi-93 Military Exercise *[KCNA]* 28
Paper Urges Kim Chong-pil Purge From Politics *[KCNA]* 29
Hanminjon Denounces ROK 'Crackdown' on Students *[KCNA]* 29
Reunification Group Denounces ROK's 'Folly' *[KCNA]* 30
Daily Denounces Japan for 'Decrying' U.S. Talks *[KCNA]* 31
KCNA Reviews 28 Jun NODONG SINMUN 31
KCNA Reports 26 Jun Pyongyang Press 32

South Korea

DPRK Envoy: Pyongyang Not To Return to NPT *[Seoul Radio]* 32
DPRK Said To Criticize Rabin's Remarks on Golan *[THE KOREA HERALD 27 Jun]* 33
DPRK Premier: N-S Envoy Exchange Aborted *[YONHAP]* 33
  Spokesman: Seoul 'Regrets' Decision *[YONHAP]* 33
  Minister: No Proposal Until Nuclear Pact *[YONHAP]* 33
  Seoul Urges Resolution of Nuclear Issue *[Seoul Radio]* 34
Official: Dialogues To Aid 'Transparency' *[YONHAP]* 34
Minister: Basis Provided for Nuclear Inspection *[YONHAP]* 34
Seoul Examining Revision of North-South Policy *[HANGUK ILBO 28 Jun]* 35
Seoul, U.S. Agree To Time Limit on DPRK Talks *[CHOSON ILBO 26 Jun]* 35
  Seoul, U.S. To Discuss Nuclear Issue *[YONHAP]* 35
  Official: 'No Discord' With U.S. on Talks *[YONHAP]* 36
Reaction to U.S. Bomb Attack on Baghdad Reported 36
  Police Boost U.S. Embassy Security *[YONHAP]* 36
  Ministry: U.S. Action 'Reasonable' *[YONHAP]* 36
  Koreans in Baghdad 'Safe' *[YONHAP]* 36
  Official: Attack Reflects U.S. 'Will' *[Seoul TV]* 36
Seoul, Washington Reach Agreement in Beef Talks *[YONHAP]* 37
U.S. Trade Official Urges Deregulation Plans *[THE KOREA HERALD 26 Jun]* 37
Naval Officer Gives Secrets to Japanese Reporter 38
  Officer Arrested for Divulging Secrets *[YONHAP]* 38
  Authorities To Expel Reporter *[YONHAP]* 38
  Authorities To Prosecute Reporter *[YONHAP]* 38
  Japanese TV Chief's Apartment Searched *[THE KOREA TIMES 27 Jun]* 39
Czech Minister Offers Nuclear Technology *[Seoul Radio]* 39
Kim Gives BBC Interview on Policy Toward DPRK *[YONHAP]* 39
  Newspapers View Interview *[TONG-A ILBO, etc. 26 Jun]* 40
Kim Urges North To Give Up Nuclear Development *[YONHAP]* 42
DP, Former Chief of Staff Discuss 12 Dec Coup *[YONHAP]* 42
Papers Mark Anniversary of Start of Korean War *[TONG-A ILBO, etc. 25 Jun]* 42
Electronics Companies Hasten Advance Into PRC *[YONHAP]* 43

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Delegates Continue Discussions 24 Jun *[Rangoon Radio]* 44
  Further Discussions 25 Jun *[Rangoon Radio]* 44
SLORC Bans Discussions on 'Political Matters' *[London BBC International]* 44

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Foreign Minister Condemns U.S. Attack on Iraq *[Kuala Lumpur Radio]* 45

U.S. Official's Visit Gives 'Fresh Hope' *[Kuala Lumpur International]* ... 45
Advisory Role for KR in Cambodia Welcomed *[Kuala Lumpur Radio]* ... 46

Cambodia

Sihanouk Denies Inviting KR To Join Government *[Phnom Penh Radio]* ... 46
  Says Khmer Rouge 'Cannot Be Trusted' *[AFP]* ... 46
  Speaks on Current Situation *[Phnom Penh Radio]* ... 47
Mixed Military Working Group Meets 23 Jun *[Phnom Penh Radio]* ... 51
  Joint Statement Issued *[Phnom Penh Radio]* ... 51
Khmer Rouge Attack Moung Russei District 23 Jun *[Phnom Penh Radio]* ... 51

Indonesia

Alatas: No Israel Ties Until Palestine Issue Settled *[Jakarta Radio]* ... 51
Daily Welcomes Goals of Human Rights Commission *[SUARA PEMBARUAN 9 Jun]* ... 52
Asylum-Seekers Reject Guarantees; Alatas Comments *[AFP]* ... 53
  Swedish Embassy Stuck With Protesters *[Stockholm Radio]* ... 53
  Alatas: Foreign 'Enemies' at Work *[ANTARA]* ... 54

Laos

President Greets Sihanouk on Appointment *[Vientiane Radio]* ... 54

Philippines

Ramos Comments on Iraq Bombing *[Manila Radio]* ... 55

Thailand

Editorial Calls U.S. Attack on Iraq 'Justified' *[BANGKOK POST 28 Jun]* ... 55
NSC Chief on Upcoming Security Talks With U.S. *[THE NATION 27 Jun]* ... 56
Protection for U.S. Drug Patents Considered *[Bangkok Radio]* ... 57
  No Retroactive Protection Planned *[SIAM RAT 27 Jun]* ... 57
Ministers: Not All U.S. Copyright Demands Met *[SIAM RAT 28 Jun]* ... 57
Ministry Forms Center To Protect IPR *[SIAM POST 26 Jun]* ... 58
Cambodian Prince Ranariddh in Bangkok for 'Rest' *[BANGKOK POST 26 Jun]* ... 58
Government for Including KR in Cambodian Army *[THE NATION 27 Jun]* ... 58
Prasong Says Cambodian Conflict To Be Settled *[SIAM RAT 27 Jun]* ... 59
UN Praises Thai Engineers' Work in Cambodia *[Bangkok Radio]* ... 59
Commentary Views Enforcement of Human Rights *[THE NATION 27 Jun]* ... 59
Foreign Minister Outlines Regional Policy *[Bangkok Radio]* ... 61

Vietnam

Reports on National Assembly Meetings Continue ... 61
  Draft Law on Publication Debated *[Hanoi Radio]* ... 61
  More Debate on Draft Laws 23 Jun *[Hanoi Radio]* ... 62
  Power, Order Draft Law Discussed *[Hanoi Radio]* ... 63
  More on 25 Jun Proceedings *[Hanoi Radio]* ... 64
  Assembly Issues Communique No. 6 *[Hanoi Radio]* ... 64
  26 Jun Morning Proceedings *[Hanoi Radio]* ... 65
  Further on 26 Jun Proceedings *[Hanoi Radio]* ... 65
  28 Jun Morning Proceedings *[Hanoi Radio]* ... 66
U.S. NGO Conference Delegates Urge Normal Ties *[Hanoi International]* ... 66
Vo Van Kiet Continues Visit to France ... 67
  French Economic Ties Viewed *[Hanoi International]* ... 67
  Meets With Business Leaders *[VNA]* ... 67
  Visit Generates Business Interest *[Hanoi International]* ... 67
  Received by President Mitterrand *[VNA]* ... 67
  More Activities, Meetings Reported *[Hanoi Radio]* ... 68

Le Mai's Vienna Speech on Human Rights Viewed *[Hanoi International]* 69
Projects Funded by Foreign Aid Reported *[VNA]* 69
State Loses '13 Million' Dollars to Corruption *[AFP]* 70
Illegal Arms Dealer Receives Death Sentence *[Hanoi Radio]* 70

AUSTRALASIA

Australi

Minister: U.S. Attack on Iraq 'Understandable' *[AFP]* 71
Kurdish Demonstrators Take Over UN Office *[AFP]* 71
  Incident Ends; No Injuries *[AFP]* 71
Minister Discusses Illegal PRC Immigration *[AFP]* 71
Steel Firm Considers U.S. Plant To Avoid Duty *[AFP]* 72

Cairns Agricultural Group Holds Bangkok Meeting

Thai Minister on Uruguay Round Link

BK2606145593 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] During an interview with newsmen about the 12d meeting of the Cairns group at the Shangri-La Hotel on 26-27 June, Thailand being the host country, Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak said that consultations among members of the Cairns group should be studied at the Uruguay Round of trade talks. He said if the group's meeting could contribute to the success of the Uruguay round of talks, that would mean an expansion in global trade worth some U.S. $200 billion.

[Begin recording] [Suphachai] We want to see issues discussed at the current meeting taken up by major countries at the Uruguay round of trade talks. We do not want to see something like the Blair House agreement, an agreement which was reached between the United States and the EC, under which cuts in farm subsidies would only cover products traded between them and not products of other countries, such as Thailand. They could reach a similar agreement at the Uruguay round of talks, but it would not benefit us.

[Correspondent] ...the Uruguay round of talks, what do you think about the situation?

[Suphachai] There could be certain damage. According to our estimation, global trade would benefit with a growth of about U.S. $200 billion if there is success at the Uruguay round of talks. This is very important. Without global trade expansion, we stand to suffer too. If there is a delay in the expansion of international trade, Thailand will certainly be affected because Thailand depends heavily on exports at present.

[Correspondent] What is the attitude of the United States and the EC regarding the current meeting of the Cairns group?

[Suphachai] We invited them as observers. They are not members of the Cairns group; they are attending the meeting as observers. We want to publicize the results of the present meeting. In my opinion, they can put forth our ideas worldwide, especially those countries which are taking part in the forthcoming G-7 summit, and also at a meeting in Geneva. We have therefore invited them to this present meeting. The United States, especially, should agree to more opening up of the farm products market. Yet, the United States tends to reject any proposal concerning subsidies for its local producers. There are heavy subsidies in the United States, but only just a few in our country. We want to see more opening up of the market. [end recording]

The Cairns group at today's meeting reportedly decided to put forth rather aggressive proposals and to make clear the position adopted by the Cairns group that the group of seven industrialized countries, or G-7, should treat the agricultural sector as an important subject during the Uruguay round of trade talks, and that they should not take advantage of agricultural exporting countries.

Australian Officials on Group's Goals

BK2606021893 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Jun 93 p 15

[Text] Australian officials said yesterday the Cairns Group of agricultural exporting countries will call on the world's major economies to open up their negotiations to other participants in world trade talks within the next few weeks. But they also indicated that the Cairns Group still has to resolve some differences among its own members at the group's ministerial meeting that begins today in Bangkok.

The officials were briefing reporters on the objectives of this weekend's meeting of the Cairns Group, the alliance of 14 countries lobbying for farm trade liberalisation in the Uruguay Round.

Members will have to decide whether the group is willing to accept a bilateral agreement reached late last year by the United States and European Community—the "Blair House accord"—designed as a first step towards breaking the deadlock on agriculture that has frozen the Uruguay Round of world trade talks since December 1990.

Thailand and some other members are worried that the Blair House accord does not go far enough to meet the Cairns Group's targets for sharp cuts in subsidies and protectionism in agriculture. The cuts prescribed are too small, and the commitments are too broad, allowing the EC and United States to reduce subsidies and protection only on products of interest to them and perhaps even to raise barriers on products of interest to smaller countries such as Thailand, Thai Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak said earlier this week.

And although the Australian officials denied that differences between Canada and other members could prevent the Cairns Group from making a sufficiently strong statement, Australian Trade Minister Peter Cook, the group's chairman, admitted that this week's row over new Canadian tariffs on imported beef has not been helpful.

"It's not a great way to start the week," he said before leaving his Bangkok hotel for a round of courtesy visits to Thai ministers and Prime Minister Chuan Likphai.

As well as having to overcome Australian and New Zealand resentment against the Canadian beef tariffs, the rest ofthe Cairns Group will also have to find a solution to Canada's long-standing insistence that countries should be allowed exemptions from the proposed requirement that import bans or quotas be converted to tariffs. Ottawa is worried that such a move would leave its dairy industry vulnerable to imports from the United

States. The rest of the Cairns Group is worried that exemptions for Canada would mean exemptions for everyone else.

Dr Suphachai said earlier this week that Thailand fears Japan will use the exemption to preserve its rice import ban and that the United States and EC could do the same for sugar quotas. The Australian officials said yesterday the Cairns Group would insist that no quantitative restrictions should be exempt from conversion to tariffs, a position that has become known as "comprehensive tariffication".

But they accepted that wording might be devised that could allow the Canadians to interpret the position differently, as has happened in previous Cairns Group communiques.

The officials, briefing reporters about the Cairns Group meeting, said negotiations to break the Uruguay Round deadlock on agriculture have to move back to Geneva before the summer break starts in August in Europe, North America and Japan.

Geneva is where more than 100 countries are participating in the Uruguay Round of General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks and where GATT is headquartered.

At present, efforts to conclude the round are concentrated within a small group of economic powers: the "quadrilaterals" involving the United States, European Community Japan and Canada, whose trade ministers met in Tokyo on Thursday; and the Group of Seven (G-7) top industrial nations whose leaders meet for a summit in Tokyo during July 7-9. G-7 consists of the United States, Japan, Canada, Germany, France, Britain and Italy.

Progress on market-opening for most goods and services was reported after Thursday's quadrilateral meeting in Tokyo. But deadlock remains on agriculture, and a new meeting has been scheduled for July 6, also in Tokyo, immediately before the G-7 Summit.

Steve Deady, director of agriculture at the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and John Buckley, minister at the Australian embassy in Geneva, said it is vital that agreement be reached with all Uruguay Round participants before mid-December.

That would leave only two and a half months after the traditional August-September summer break.

December 15 is the deadline, under the "fast-track" negotiating mandate that Congress is in the process of renewing, for US President Bill Clinton to notify his legislature that a Uruguay Round package has been agreed.

Without "fast track", Congress could try to amend parts of the package, a process that could unravel what would be the most complicated world trade deal ever concluded. With "fast-track", Congress will either accept or reject the package without seeking amendment.

The main challenge facing the Cairns Group's ministers in Bangkok this weekend is how to send an effective message to the G-7 leaders. This is the fourth year running that the Cairns Group has met just before a G-7 summit.

The Australian officials noted that at each Summit, the G-7 issued statements strongly commiting members to conclude the round speedily, but that in practice there was no significant progress.

This time the Cairns Group will make clear that expressions of intent "will not be sufficient," said Mr Deady. "I think there will be some targeted message in the communique." How detailed that message will be is not known yet.

New Zealand on Blair House Agreement

BK2606025293 Bangkok THE NATION in English 26 Jun 93 pp B1, B10

[Text] New Zealand's Minister for Trade Negotiations said yesterday that his country sees the Blair House agricultural agreement as consistent to the Dunkel final draft act, and added that it was one that NZ will respect.

Philip Burdon said during an interview with THE NATION prior to the Cairns Group meeting scheduled to be held in Bangkok today, that New Zealand does not have any problems with the Blair House agreement. The agreeement is the result of bilateral agreements between the United States and the European Community (EC) on farm subsidies and market access for agricultural products between the two.

"I agree that to the extent it is not a substitute for a final draft act, but I see it as consistent with a final draft," Burdon said.

Thai Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchapak, however, sees the Blair House agreement rather differently. In a separate interview, he blamed the agreement made between the EC and the United States for the limited market access for farm products and the ensuiug rebalancing act, shifting subsidies from one farm product to another.

Suphachai had earlier said that it would not be fair if the Gatt Uruguay Round of world trade talks finalize the agricultural product issues with ideas mainly based on the Blair House agreement. The act of "multilateralization" of a bilateral agreement will truly be unfair, Suphachai said.

Burdon said that the 12th Cairns group meeting will give a clear message to the G-7 industrialized countries, "that we will not compromise on the agriculture agreements that have been made."

"The meeting is also to emphasize the frustration of participating countries on the delays in the Uruguay Round. We are running out of time," Burdon warned.

The Cairns Group meeting is also important as "we are well aware of suspicions that the group was working loose at the edges," he said.

"It (the meeting) is an illustration of the most visual and objective times of unity and commitment for an early conclusion to the Uruguay Round," Burdon added.

Asked whether the Cairns Group would be able to send a strong message to the G-7 and Gatt members about Canada, the Cairns member which has just imposed a tariff on its beef imports, Burdon hedged and said that he just wished for the reciprocal goodwill and commitment New Zealand signals from other negotiating parties.

"You cannot shake hands by yourself, you need two hands to shake," he said.

Earlier this week, Canada imposed a 25 per cent tariff on boneless beef imports in excess of 72,000 tonnes from non-American countries, until the end of the year. Nearly all of its imports are from Australia and New Zealand.

Asked how he sees the prospects for the Gatt Uruguay Round of world trade talks, Burdon commented: "I am hopeful, but also very aware that we have had a succession of failed deadlines."

He warned that if the round fails it will affect everyone. "People will blame one another for any failure. It will be a severe blow to the process of liberalization of international trade and could possibly encourage international trading blocks," he said.

Asked whether the Cairns Group of 14 diversified agricultural export countries—which teogether hold the common interest of less protectionism for farm products—would be able to hold on, Burdon said he was optimistic.

Thai Minister on Trade Strategy

BK2706022093 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Jun 93 p A1

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Dr Suphachai Phanitchaphak yesterday proposed a four-point strategy to pressure the world's leading developed countries into resolving their trade conflicts and successfully conclude the stalled international trade talks.

Suphachai, who headed the Thai delegation to the Cairns Group's two-day meeting in Bangkok, said the group should first fix its attention exclusively on the successful completion of the Uruguay Round of international trade negotiations, conducted under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt).

"I would like to see the Cairns members not get involved in other negotiation schemes until the Uruguay Round is completed," the deputy prime minister said. Second, Suphachai urged the Cairns group to set up a "watchdog" agency to ensure that the major international trading nations make a sincere effort to end the round, now scheduled for Dec 15.

"The Cairns members must object right away if the major trading countries act in any way against the interests and position of the group," he said, adding that this would indicate that the group is serious about its position.

Suphachai's third point is for each Cairns member to push the consensus reached at this meeting into all future bilateral and international economic discussions.

His last point calls for the group to continue to state and demonstrate its united stand to the international community.

"We have to follow up on our efforts here this weekend. (The consensus reached) just can't wait around until the next meeting in October. We have to pursue and constantly inform everyone of our standpoint," Suphachai urged.

Suphachai toned down his earlier opposition to the Blair House Accord, which resolved the US-EC row but fell short of the tariff reductions envisaged in the Dunkel Draft Final Act, the document designed by Gatt Director-General Arthur Dunkel to bring the Uruguay Round to a successful finish.

"The Blair House Accord is better than nothing. Before it came into being, the EC and the US couldn't agree on anything. While it is a negative way to make progress in the Uruguay Round, the Blair House Accord represents a step forward. If we reject it, we could become instruments of other countries who do not favour it," Suphachai said, referring tacitly to France's opposition to the European Community concession to reduce farm subsidies.

The Cairns group comprises Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Columbia, Fiji, Hungary, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Uruguay, and Thailand. Together, the 14-member organization accounts for nearly one fifth of total world exports of agricultural products.

The liberalization of global agricultural trade has been the hardest problem to resolve among the Gatt members. The Cairns Group, whose members are mostly developing countries, want freer trade in agriculture. The developed countries, including Japan, the United States and the European Community, have been reluctant to open up their agricultural sectors.

The Gatt negotiations were previously bogged down by a bitter dispute between the United States and the European Community involving the latter's exorbitant subsidies to its farmers.

To make sure their collective voice is heard, the Cairns Group's weekend meeting here is intended to shape a message for the July 7-9 annual gathering in Tokyo of the world's seven major industrial nations (G-7), consisting of Britain, France, Germany, Italy the United States, Canada and Japan.

The response from the other delegates to Suphachai's proposal has been noncommittal, pending further deliberations today.

EC Official Urges Open ASEAN Markets

BK2706023093 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Jun 93 p A2

[Text] A European Community official yesterday warned that if Asean countries do not open their financial markets and allow more imports of industrial products then the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks might collapse.

Daniel Descoutures, representing the European Commission as a negotiator for the EC, said the community demands a well-balanced package which will not only include the agricultural element but also liberalization of the financial sector and industrial products as major components to the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round.

Descoutures told reporters during the two-day 12th Cairns Group meeting in Bangkok that "the agricultural element cannot and will not be the only element in the Uruguay Round".

"No way that the Commission can go in front of its member states and propose the acceptance of the Blair House Accord without being convinced that we have a good package on market access for industrial products and in the financial sector," he warned.

The Blair House Accord is a bilateral agreement between the United States and the EC on agricultural issues which the Commission has already endorsed and is currently trying to coax agreement from all its members. The significance of the agreement is that it will be the major reference for farm issue negotiations in the Uruguay Round under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt).

Agriculture is another crucial topic for the Round to complete as negotiators are rallying around for lowering barriers of protectionism while seeking wider world market access for farm products.

In order to achieve a "balanced package" with liberalization in the financial sector and general market access as demanded by the EC, Descoutures directly pointed to Asean countries.

"Asean countries, which have booming economies and strong potential for growth, need to be convinced that the Community will look at their proposals for liberalization in the financial sector," he said. "Only if we have a balanced package with the whole spectrum of Uruguay Round, will we be able to accept the Blair House agreement."

While the 14 agricultural exporting countries of the Cairns Group still have different opinions on the Blair House Accord, Descoutures said the agreement will definitely go to Geneva, where the Uruguay Round meets.

"We've never disguised the fact that it (Blair House agreement) will be multilateralized in Geneva," he added.

While Thai Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanichphak warned earlier that it would not be fair if the Round bases the issue of agricultural products mainly on the Accord, Descoutures implicitly said that it will be inevitable.

"It is difficult to see that the Accord will not be the basis for future reference in the Uruguay Round of talks on agricultural issues as it is an agreement between the US and the EC who are important players in the sector."

While Thailand was joined by Asean member countries like Malaysia and Indonesia in criticizing the Accord for its limited market access for farm products and for its "rebalancing" act, shifting subsidies from one praduct to another, other members such as Australia, New Zealand and Canada, however, had no objection to the agreement.

Group Issues 'Bangkok Declaration'

BK2806025293 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Jun 93 p 19

[Text of "The Bangkok Declaration" issued in Bangkok, Thailand on 27 June]

[Text] The Cairns Group countries meet at a ministerial level at a time when the whole world is united by a grave economic responsibility.

The global recession has been too long and too deep and the recovery harder to sustain and strengthen than before.

At the same time, new protectionist tendencies are emerging. These threaten to turn countries and regions inward, divide and diminish global economic strength and block the rewards of comparative advantage.

And everywhere there are heightened tensions over trade, fermenting disputes and the looming spectre of trade wars.

Since 1990, successive G-7 summits have acknowledged the critical importance of the Uruguay Round to the world economy. Each summit has pledged to bring the round to a swift, substantial conclusion.

Three years ago, at Houston, the G-7 leaders expressed their determination to take the difficult political decisions to do this. They resolved to achieve far-reaching substantial results across all sectors by the end of 1990.

At the London Summit in 1991, the leaders declared that the aim of all contracting parties should be to complete the round by the year's end. They committed themselves to "remain personally involved in this process".

Last year, at Munich, the G-7 "regretted the slow pace of negotiations" and expressed their "expectation that an agreement could be reached before the end of 1992".

Sadly, none of these commitments have been realised.

This year, the world simply cannot afford another failure. The G-7 should use the Tokyo Summit to provide leadership for the last, critical phase of the Uruguay Round negotiations. Deeds, not words, are required to secure a real, balanced and genuinely trade liberalising outcome this year.

The Cairns Group maintains its determination to act positively and constructively to help conclude the round this year.

Less than six months remain. Following the G-7 Summit, the whole process of the negotiations should be brought back to Geneva and multilateralised as a matter of urgency.

We remind the summit that a substantial outcome on agriculture is a central and essential part of the overall package.

We will work within the multilateral process to bring this about.

Essentials of Acricultural Trade Reform

Cairns Group countries have fundamental interests in improved market access and strengthened rules being applied to agriculture. Both elements must be included for there to be an acceptable overall outcome to the round.

The provisions of the draft final act involve commitments to reduce domestic support and export subsidies and to liberalise market access.

For the last 12 months, the focus for resolving remaining problems in agriculture has been on bilateral negotiations between the United States and the European Community. These talks have resulted in a bilateral agreement—the so-called Blair House accord.

In light of these developments Cairns Group countries look forward to resuming negotiations in Geneva as soon as possible in order to secure a genuinely trade liberalising outcome to the Uruguay Round negotiations on agriculture.

Fundamental Importance of Market Access

Ministers are deeply concerned that the market access negotiations on agriculture remain stalled.

The existing market access offers and recent measures taken by some major trading partners do not expand but in fact reduce agricultural trade opportunities for a number of products of importance to Cairns Group countries. In other cases, offers have not yet been tabled with commitments on domestic support, export subsidies and market access consistent with the provision of the draft final act.

An acceptable agricultural market access package will need to be genuinely equitable and trade liberalising. This will require market access to be expanded and there can be no reduction in access opportunities for individual products because of the reinstrumentation of import protection measures. Access must be maintained on terms at least equivalent to those existing.

For the Cairns Group, it is critical that a satisfactory and balanced overall package takes account of the specific interests and needs of developing countries. This must include tropical products and other products of importance to them.

Ensuring Time for the Multilateral Process

In order to achieve an acceptable outcome, an appropriate amount of time will be necessary to remedy shortcomings in the existing market access offers. This is why market access negotiations on agriculture must be effectively engaged in the period immediately following the summit. If this is not done, the round could be jeopardised simply because of insufficient time.

Cairns Group countries, therefore, call on the G-7 to immediately resolve their remaining differences on the implementation of an enhanced market access package. Failure to do this will slow the total process, complicate multilateral negotiations in Geneva and put a successful overall outcome at risk.

Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Measures

The Cairns Group endorses the negotiated agreement on sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures. It forms a substantial part of the package and should not be reopened.

The Cairns Group stresses that failure to secure these objectives will very seriously endanger the prospects for finally bringing the Uruguay Round to a successful conclusion. Ministers restated the position that without a substantial outcome in agriculture, the round cannot and will not conclude.

The Global Economy Needs a Positive Outcome to the Round

It is now seven years since we began the Uruguay Round at Punta del Este. We are three years overdue.

Significant progress has been made: we are within reach of an outcome which has the capacity to give a boost to the world economy in money terms of about US$200 billion per year.

The real value is much more. A bold and balanced outcome across all sectors and for all countries will at one stroke strengthen recovery, remove tension and inspire business confidence.

We urge the G-7 Summit participants to show the vision, leadership and commitment necessary to complete the task. Consistent with our charter, we will act constructively and positively for a comprehensive and genuinely liberalising package which includes a solid outcome on agriculture.

Now is the time to act and get the job done.

Group Ministers Hold News Conference

BK2806030893 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Jun 93 p 17

[Excerpts] Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak and two other ministers from the Cairns Group of 14 agricultural producers flew to Tokyo last night to urge the Group of Seven leading industrial nations to settle their differences immediately and bring other countries into world trade talks.

The message is contained in a communique agreed on yesterday by Cairns Group ministers at the end of their two-day meeting in Bangkok. It increases pressure on the G-7 leaders who meet in Tokyo on July 7-9, by accusing them of failing three years running to live up to their annual commitment to end the Uruguay Round of world trade talks swiftly.

Accompanying Dr Suphachai will be Australian Trade Minister Peter Cook, chairman of the Cairns Group, and Argentine Agriculture Minister Felipe Sola. This morning they will meet caretaker Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, the host of next month's G-7 Summit.

At a closing press conference, Mr Cook said the so-called Bangkok Declaration would be further reinforced by Cairns Group diplomats in Bonn, Brussels, London, Paris, Rome and Washington, delivering the message directly to the G-7 governments.

The focus of negotiations to break the deadlock in the Uruguay Round is now with the G-7—the United States, Canada, Japan, the UK, France, Germany and Italy and the "quadrilaterals"—the United States, Canada, Japan and the European Community.

The Cairns Group wants these talks concluded as fast as possible in order to bring the negotiations back to Geneva, where the Uruguay Round takes place, and to bring on board the rest of the more than 100 participants.

The group wants this to happen in July in order to beat the December 15 deadline set by US President Bill Clinton's "fast-track" negotiating mandate granted by Congress. That would leave about three working months for multilateral talks because of the August and September summer break in the northern hemisphere.

"The one single thing that all governments of the world can do, and particularly the G-7 governments can do, is to ensure that the Uruguay Round is completed. That will be the single most individual act that can be performed to encourage economic confidence and get the global economy back on track," Mr Cook said.

The group is also concerned that its interests might be ignored in the effort to resolve the dispute between the United States and EC.

"There is no possibility that the countries at this table (the Cairns Group) are going to be shunted aside," said Canadian International Trade Minister Michael Wilson. Canada represents the Cairns Group at quadrilateral and G-7 meetings. He and Mr Cook stressed that the outcome of the negotiations will have to be judged as a package balancing all issues.

The Cairns Group also accepted some of the proposals Dr Suphachai put forward on Saturday for further action. Members' ambassadors in Geneva will monitor developments in trade talks around the world so that Cairns Group governments can be informed and can respond swiftly.

Mr Cook said the Cairns Group is also likely to issue an immediate comment on the outcome of next week's G-7 meetings.

Officials and ministers of the quadrilaterals are now involved in hard bargaining to reduce trade barriers on industrial goods and services, with talks scheduled in Toronto this week and in Tokyo on July 6. Participants will report to G-7 leaders the following day.

Also on the agenda are market access talks on agriculture, an issue that Cairns Group members will be watching with particular interest, although Canadian officials say efforts will be concentrated on industrial products and services until after the G-7 summit. [passage omitted]

The Cairns Group has papered over long-standing differences about important details of proposed liberalisation.

Canada refuses to accept a blanket commitment to convert all quantitative restrictions into tariffs that will gradually be reduced because it wants to retain import quotas to protect its dairy industry.

Several other Cairns Group members oppose exemptions from "tariffication", fearing that other countries would also seek exemptions for their sensitive products, a process that could unravel liberalisation in farm trade.

Top of the list could be the Japanese and Korean insistence that their rice import bans should be preserved.

Asked whether Ottawa could be persuaded to change its stance, Canadian International Trade Minister Michael Wilson told reporters: "No. Our position is very clear."

Argentina's Mr Sola, however, declared at the press conference that the "tariffication" would have to be comprehensive.

Delegates say a tough debate developed between Canada and Argentina yesterday on this and related issues. The difficult question of whether to accept the Blair House bilateral agreement on agriculture initialled by the United States and EC last November was resolved with a passage in the Bangkok Declaration that describes Blair House as a bilateral agreement and adds that the Cairns Group countries "look forward to resuming negotiations in Geneva as soon as possible."

Although many Cairns Group members have reservations about Blair House, they have agreed to take the accord as a first step towards a better agreement. On Saturday, New Zealand Trade Negotiations Minister Philip Burdon was quoted as warning that if the Cairns Group rejected Blair House, this would play into the hands of European protectionists who also want to reject the accord.

Minister on Cairns Meeting Outcome

BK2706144593 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] After the closure of the 12th Cairns meeting today, Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak told reporters about its outcome where the Cairns group has set four objectives to be proposed to the seven major industrial countries or the G-7.

He said that after the closure of the Tokyo meeting on industrial goods and services, any related meeting must be transferred to Geneva so that the representatives from various countries can hold additional negotiations on trade in agricultural produce and the reduction of subsidies for unspecific goods which are not in line with the draft agreement of GATT. The meeting discussed the opening of markets for some goods subject to high tax barriers which has caused problems to some countries. The last issue was about the protection of intellectual property to be discussed with the G-7 in Tokyo.

[Begin Suphachai recording] Probably not much will deal with trade in agricultural produce while emphasis will be placed on the protection of intellectual property and services. [end recording]

However, the Cairns group reaffirmed that if the objectives cannot be achieved, the conclusion of the Uruguay Round will be gravely affected. The Cairns group will also not accept the outcome of the Uruguay Round of international trade negotiations if there is no settlement on trade in agricultural produce.

Japan

Tokyo Delays Comment on U.S. Bombing of Iraq

OW2706124493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1229 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 27 KYODO—U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher briefed Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Sunday about U.S. missile strike against Iraqi intelligence headquarters in Baghdad, government sources said.

Christopher called Miyazawa at his private residence at 10:30 A.M. shortly after U.S. forces fired cruise missiles to punish Iraq for its alleged plot to assassinate former U.S. President George Bush during his visit to Kuwait in April, the sources said.

Christopher told Miyazawa that Iraq's alleged attempt to assassinate Bush was tantamount to an attack on the U.S., the sources said. Miyazawa said he appreciated Christopher's explanation and refrained from commenting further, they said.

U.S. President Bill Clinton said he has sufficient evidence of an Iraqi plot to assassinate Bush on April 15 when the former president made his first visit to Kuwait city since leading the multinational armed forces that evicted Iraqi forces from Kuwait in 1991. He blamed Iraqi President Sadam Husaym and his security forces for the plot.

Christopher also made a similar briefing to Foreign Minister Kabun Muto in a written statement sent through the Japanese Embassy in Washington, the sources said.

The government will state its position on the U.S. action after Washington unveils its evidence against Iraq at an emergency meeting of United Nations Security Council that was asked by Clinton.

Later Sunday, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Masamichi Hanabusa issued a statement endorsing the U.S. missile attack against Iraq. He expressed understanding about the circumstances of the military action.

States Concern Over Casualties

OW2806054693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0501 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—Japan on Monday officially backed the U.S. missile attack Saturday on Baghdad, depicting it as a necessary action to combat state terrorism.

In private, however, a senior government official said Japan could not fully support the attack due to the loss of innocent Iraqi life. Six civilians were reportedly killed in the cruise missile attack against Iraqi intelligence headquarters in retaliation for an assassination plot against former U.S. President George Bush when he was visiting Kuwait. "But given the current state of Japan-U.S. relations we cannot say anything critical," about the United States, said the official, speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity.

At a regular news conference, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said the attack was "unavoidable" given the Iraq Government's support for the assassination plot, and Baghdad's failure to heed United Nations resolutions. Kono said the U.S. also regards the missile attack as a step to prevent similar plots in future.

Asked if Tokyo's views on how to prevent state terrorism are identical to those of the U.S., Kono said, "There are differences in the way various nations respond...Our country has never had this experience."

Japan's Ambassador to the U.N. Yoshio Hatano told a special session of the Security Council convened at the request of the U.S. on Sunday that Japan would consider steps to counter international terrorism, Kono said. He declined to elaborate on what role Japan would undertake.

In 1977 the government released Japanese Red Army prisoners and paid 6 million dollars after the radical group hijacked a Japan Airlines plane to Dhaka and threatened to kill passengers. The following year the government issued a communique stating it would make no more concessions to terrorists.

In 1991 three Japanese aid workers in Peru were slain by Shining Path ultraleftist guerrillas who sought to pressure Japan to withdraw support from President Alberto Fujimori, who is of Japanese decent. Tokyo withdrew its aid personnel from Peru, but is still providing financial assistance.

Group Protests Attack

OW2806072793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0710 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—A Japanese nationalist group demonstrated outside the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo on Monday to protest at the U.S. missile attack against Iraqi intelligence headquarters Sunday that reportedly left six people dead.

Five of the 200-member Issuikai displayed placards reading "Smash the Interference of the White People in Arabia" and "We Censure the Bombing Which Killed Civilians," and shouted anti-American slogans. Issuikai is a nationwide rightist group that promotes nationalism and environmentalism.

Group leader Mitsuhiro Kimura told KYODO News Service that the surprise attack launched in retaliation for a failed assassination plot against former U.S. President George Bush was unjustifiable. Conventional protocol would require Washington to first lodge a protest with Baghdad, and then give an advance warning of the attack to allow civilians time to evacuate, he said.

Kimura, who said he had become acquainted with one of the victims of the attack during a recent visit to Baghdad, said he plans to deliver a protest note to U.S. President Bill Clinton while he is in Tokyo for the July 7-9 summit of seven major industrial nations. "I think Clinton ordered the attack because his domestic policies are not going well, and he wanted to pay lip service to the military establishment by showing U.S. leadership," Kimura said.

Business Lauds Inauguration of Shinseito Party

OW2506152393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1457 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 25 KYODO—Leaders of Japan's four major economic organizations Friday hailed the inauguration of a breakaway party from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), party officials said. Former Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata, leader of the Shinseito (New Life Party), met the economic leaders separately.

The four leaders urged Hata to continue policies of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa over the country's crucial basic issues such as economy, security, defense and foreign affairs in case the LDP loses its majority and his party forges a coalition government with other opposition parties after the election, they said.

"If our party will team up with the Social Democratic Party [of Japan] (SDP) [SDPJ], naturally we will get together aiming principally at achieving continuation and stability on the nation's basic policies," Hata was quoted as saying.

The leaders are Gaishi Hiraiwa, head of the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), Takeshi Nagano, president of the Japan Federation of Employers Associations (Nikkeiren), Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai), and Rokuro Ishikawa, head of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Nissho), the officials said.

Hata said the LDP has lost governability and should hand over power.

Hata and leaders of other noncommunist opposition parties—the SDP, Komeito, the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) and the United Social Democratic Party (USDP)—Will hold a summit meeting Sunday in an attempt to reach agreement to form a coalition government after the general election.

Meanwhile, Ichiro Ozawa, co-leader of the Shinseito, ruled out the possibility of forming a coalition with the LDP after the general election and said his party will not forge a coalition with other opposition parties unless continuation of basic policies of the current government is reached.

In an interview with KYODO News Service, Ozawa, said, "It is very unlikely to form a coalition with the LDP and it is also very unlikely to forge a coalition with opposition parties whose insistence remains unchanged."

Ozawa, former LDP secretary general, said, "A coalition (with other opposition parties) is impossible unless they show clear stance on the nation's basic principle."

Vice Prime Minister Masaharu Gotoda said Friday the prospect for the LDP to ensure a simple majority in the election for the powerful chamber is slim.

Gotoda told reporters in Tokushima that it is difficult for the LDP to secure a majority in the general election and predicted the LDP will form a coalition government with other parties.

Gotoda, concurrently the justice minister, said, "Coalition partners should be parties that the LDP can hold talks on constitutional issues and peace issues."

Morihiro Hosokawa, head of the reform-oriented Japan New Party (JNP), told a television interview that the party will not merge with the Shinseito and denied a possibility to go hand in hand with the party in the election.

The leader of the 13-month-old party also lashed out at a coalition idea touted by the Shinseito and other opposition parties, saying, "First of all, we must seek voters' judgment (in the polls)."

Former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said the people cannot feel secure unless opposition parties make their stance clear on basic policies such as nuclear power plants or the Self-Defense Forces. Kaifu said in a lecture in Tokyo that the election will be the cornerstone for the realization of political reform to clear the country's scandal-tainted politics.

Opposition Politicians on Current Situation

OW2806004593

[Editorial Report] Tokyo FNN Television Network in Japanese at 2230 GMT on 26 June, during its weekly "News 2001" program, carries a 54-minute live studio interview with Ichiro Ozawa, secretary general of the newly formed Shinseito (New Life Party) and former secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). Later in the program, Mirihiro Hosokawa, representative of the Japan New Party (JNP); Masayoshi Takemura, representative of the Sakigake (Forerunner) Party; and Hirotaka Akamatsu, secretary general of Social Democratic Party of Japan (SDPJ) join the interview. The program is moderated by newscasters Yuji Kuroiwa and Kaori Matsuyama and is attended by its regular guests—freelance commentator Kenichi Takemura and Keio University Professor Yoshiaki Koyabashi.

At 2233 GMT, Kuroiwa begins by asking Ozawa why he kept a low profile on the day when the new Shinseito was officially inaugurated. Ozawa explains: "It was reported that I was hiding—however, I was not hiding; I was working."

The program then holds an impromptu survey of the studio audience on whether Shinseito can change Japanese politics: 31 of 50 audience members answer "yes." Kuroiwa then asks Ozawa what he thinks of the figure. Ozawa simply says that the figure reflects the fact that many people are placing their strong hopes on Shinseito.

Explaining why he voted for the no-confidence motion against the Miyazawa cabinet, Ozawa says: "I believed that reorganization of the political world prior to reforming the electoral system was not the best way to promote political reform, because no party would be able to gain a majority of seats under the current medium-sized electoral system. I explained whenever I had a chance that reform of the electoral system would inevitably lead us to reorganization of the political world. Under such a situation, a stable government with a majority seats will be formed smoothly. Therefore, I was in favor of reforming the electoral system first. However, I also felt political reform could not be realized unless something was done to change the characteristics of the LDP and the opposition parties. Therefore, I decided to vote for the no-confidence motion."

Explaining the differences between his party and the LDP, Ozawa says: "New conservatism is our fundamental policy, too. However, the difference between true conservatism and the idea of keeping old customs or old ways of doing things is that the true conservatism is acompanied by self-reform. Conservatism without reform is not true conservatism but a simple attempt to keep old and corrupt customs without change. We think conservatism is to promote self-reform that is commensurate with changes of time. After a long period of one-party rule in the postwar era, the LDP lost the capability or willingness to reform itself."

In response to Kuroiwa's question as to why the Shinsei Party used the phrase "gradual reform" in its policy platform, Ozawa says: "A rapid reform is a revolution; nobody wants revolution."

Kuroiwa also points out the fact that Ozawa was in the Takeshita faction's core group and was Kanemaru's close associate. Ozawa apologizes for the relationships and says he strongly feels the need to reform the political situation he was in.

Asked if LDP members should retire from political life if the LDP fails to win a majority in the upcoming general election for the House of Representatives, Ozawa says: "I think it is something those who remain in the LDP should decide. When I was a chairman of the LDP's Election Policy Committee, I said that the party members should resign from political life if the LDP were to lose the majority after having been in power for such a long time. But I do not belong to the LDP now."

Asked about the possibility of forming a coalition with the LDP if it fails to win a majority, Ozawa says: "We do not think our party should consider allying with the LDP, no matter what happens."

At 2253 GMT, the JNP's Hosokawa and Sakigake's Takemura join the interview. Kuroiwa asks Takemura why he formed the new party. Takemura says that he felt political reform could not be promoted if he stayed in the LDP. He adds, however, that his party's fundamental ideology is similar to that of the LDP's.

Asked to explain why he did not attend a party leaders' meeting held today, Hosokawa says: "From the beginning, our party has determined to be different from the existing political parties. We want to keep this fundamental starting point." Hosokawa and Takemura say they are cautious at this stage about joining a coalition with opposition parties.

Asked if the JNP will form a coalition with Shinseito after the election, Hosokawa says: "I cannot say anything about the future situation after the election. I understand that everybody is interested in this matter. We do not know ourselves how many seats we will be able to win in the election. Nobody knows how many seats the LDP, SDPJ, and other parties will win. I believe we should study the possibility of forming a coalition with Shinseito when we find out that they share the same fundamental ideas with us."

In response to a question if the JNP will form a coalition with Shinseito, Hosokawa says: "We are saying that we will clearly distance ourselves from parties that are similar to the current LDP." Asked about the possibility of forming a coalition with the LDP, Hosokawa says: "We have no intention of allying with the LDP as it exists at the moment." On this issue, Takemura says: "Unless the LDP changes its structure, which, in effect, allowed the political reform bills to be scrapped, our party has no intention of allying with them."

At 2309 GMT, the SDPJ's Akamatsu joins the interview. Matsuyama asks Akamatsu if the SDPJ can work with Ozawa. Akamatsu says: "I think Mr. Takemura and others split from the LDP because they wanted to change the current politics. Mr. Hosokawa also formed the new party probably because he wanted to create fair politics. In that sense, I think we can come to an agreement because we all want to change LDP's one-party rule."

Asked to comment on today's meeting by opposition party leaders, Ozawa says it is good idea for opposition leaders to meet together to exchange views. He continues to say, however, that he cannot form a coalition with the SDPJ unless it changes its party policies.

Akamatsu says that his party has changed several party policies, including its view toward the nuclear power energy issue and the party's attitude toward the ROK, and that his party policies are not different from that of other parties. He reiterates that differences can be ironed out.

Asked to respond to Akamatsu's comment, Ozawa says: "We should discuss the details of forming a coalition government once those parties, other than the LDP, which seek political reform have won a majority in the forthcoming general election." Ozawa urges the SDPJ to clearly spell out its realistic policies.

At 2327 GMT, the program ends as scheduled.

950 Candidates To Run in Jul General Election

OW2606162493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1526 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 26 KYODO—About 950 candidates will contest the July 18 House of Representatives election that is expected to mark the end of the ruling party's 38-year lock on power. The campaigning for 511 seats in the lower house officially starts July 4, but many candidates are already barnstorming in their constituencies across the country. About 870 candidates from all the political parties have been selected to run and a further 80-odd names will be added to the list.

The scandal-tainted Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has ruled without interruption since 1955, and for the first time since then it looks like losing its clamp on power.

In the previous general election in February 1990, a total of 953 candidates ran for 512 lower chamber seats. Although the 1990 poll came on the heels of the downfall of two LDP administrations implicated in influence-peddling and sex scandals, the LDP won the vote by garnering 274 seats, giving it an outright majority.

This time, the election comes only one month after Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa was forced to dissolve the lower house after he failed to survive a vote of a no-confidence against his cabinet on June 18. Miyazawa was stung by the defection of dozens of LDP legislators to the opposition camp and others who boycotted the voting session. Of the 55 liberal democrats involved, 39 voted for the motion and 16 abstained.

The rebels distanced themselves from the ruling party amid public fury over a series of bribery and mobster scandals and the LDP's failure to honor to its pledge to clear up money-dominated politics.

Japan is to vote at a time when the political community is being rocked by the LDP breakup, the formation by LDP defectors of two new political parties—Shinseito (New Life Party) and Sakigake (Harbinger)—as well as an anticorruption campaign by the Japan New Party (JNP). Shinseito is led by former Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata and Sakigake by former LDP legislator Masayoshi Takemura. The JNP is headed by former Kumamoto Prefectural Governor Morihiro Hosokawa.

The parties are expected to wage a fierce election battle because of the prospect of the LDP losing its majority, which means the opposition parties could place their members in the cabinet of a possible coalition government.

The LDP reportedly sought 20 billion yen in loans from major commercial banks to finance the campaigning but the banks promised to loan 10 billion yen.

So far, the LDP has endorsed 276 candidates. But the ruling party is having difficulty in finding additional appropriate candidates because of voter wariness about entrenched corruption in the LDP—ostensibly the key reason for Hata's rebellion.

Meanwhile, the chiefs of the five opposition parties, including Hata, plan to get together at a Tokyo hotel Sunday [27 June] to discuss ways to bolster their solidarity during and after the election. The opposition appears confident of forming a coalition government.

The five chiefs are Hata, Sadao Yamahana of the Social Democratic Party, Koshiro Ishida of Komeito, Keigo Ouchi of the Democratic Socialist Party and Satsuki Eda of the United Social Democratic Party.

Officials said the meeting is the result of an invitation by Shinseito to the chiefs of six other parties—including the Sakigake's Takemura and JNP's Hosokawa—to discuss the prospects of a coalition. But Takemura and Hosokawa spurned the invitation, they said.

Shinseito has faced a barrage of criticism that its founding members were closely affiliated with LDP leaders tainted by their alleged involvement in the Lockheed payoff scandal and the Recruit stocks-for-favors scandal. A Shinseito executive told KYODO NEWS SERVICE that the get-together is designed to "reaffirm their vows of solidarity." The official foresaw difficulty in working out an irreversible promise to form a coalition.

The leaders are expected to draw up a policy document on issues such as taking over the LDP's longstanding policies in security, defense and diplomacy. This, Shinseito sources said, would alleviate voter concern over a possible policy standoff in a coalition government.

However, Miyazawa and others have voiced doubts whether a coalition government could adopt the basic policies of successive LDP administrations in view of the [word indistinct] ideologies of the SDP on issues such as the constitutional statue of the Self-Defense Forces and its stance toward North and South Korea.

The Shinseito official agreed the party might be unable to form a coalition with the socialists unless they agree to continue the basic security and diplomatic policies of the LDP.

In a related development, the SDP said it will field 148 candidates in the election. SDP Secretary General Hirotaka Akamatsu told a news conference in Tokyo that it hopes to eventually boost the number of candidates to more than 160.

Kaifu To Use Elections To Strengthen Reformists

OW2606121693 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1007 GMT 26 Jun 93

[From the "NHK News 7" program]

[Text] At a news conference held in Wadayama-cho, Hyogo Prefecture today, former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu stressed that he will make every effort to strengthen the power of reformist Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] members by using the opportunity of the upcoming general elections to ensure they will take the initiative within the LDP after the elections. He said that although political reform could not be achieved in the latest Diet session, the upcoming elections for the House of Representatives should be considered as an opportunity for political reform. He said that he will do his utmost so reformist members will be able to take the initiative. In this way, Kaifu stressed that he plans to strengthen the power of LDP reform-minded members through the elections.

Miyazawa To 'Make Every Effort' To Regain Trust

OW2706154193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1531 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Sunday pledged to make every effort to regain public trust in politics in his comment on the showing of his scandal-tainted Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly election.

Miyazawa, who is also LDP president, said in a statement that the ruling party put up a good fight in the face of "severe political circumstances."

Miyazawa said he will do his utmost to meet public expectations and vowed to humbly take account of public criticism. In the election, the LDP gained 44 seats, two seats more than its preelection strength, in the 128-member assembly.

The LDP was expected to face a uphill battle before the election because of widespread public criticism over its failure to achieve political and electoral reforms in the wake of involvement by party members in a series of money scandals.

The poll was widely regarded as an acid test for the July 18 house of representatives election. Miyazawa was forced to dissolve the lower house on June 18 after he failed to survive a no- confidence parliamentary vote.

Five Opposition Heads Agree on Coalition Idea

OW2706071193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0643 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 27 KYODO—Leaders of the four non-communist opposition parties and the head of a breakaway party from the ruling party agreed on Sunday to cooperate in the July 18 election for the House of Representatives in the hopes of establishing a postelection coalition government.

Former Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata, head of the Shinseito (New Life Party) met with the four major opposition leaders—Sadao Yamahana, chairman of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), Koshiro Ishida, chairman of Komeito, Keigo Ouchi, chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), and Satsuki Eda, representative of the United Social Democratic Party (USDP).

Besides joining forces in the hopes of ending the 38-year dominance of the government by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Hata and the four opposition leaders also consented to work toward drastic political reform in establishing clean parliamentary politics, officials from the parties said.

They said the parties would continue the nation's basic polices in diplomacy and defense. The No. 1 opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) has opposed the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) as unconstitutional. Only recently the SDP has conditionally approved the existence of the SDF for the first time.

Hata called for a summit meeting of opposition bloc, but leaders of the reform-minded Japan New Party (JNP) and another LDP defection Sakigake (Harbinger) refused to participate in the opposition talks.

Hold News Conference

OW2706114193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1120 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 27 KYODO—The leaders of five opposition parties vowed Sunday [27 June] to end the ruling party's 38-year clamp on power by maximizing their "election campaign collaboration" at the July 18 general election.

With the likelihood of a coalition government, they agreed to maintain the policies of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on key issues such as defense and diplomacy.

The leaders met at a Tokyo hotel to finalize details of their anti-LDP political alliance. The LDP has ruled without interruption since its founding in 1955.

The five leaders are Tsutomu Hata of the newly formed Shinseito, Sadao Yamahana of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), Koshiro Ishida of Komeito, Keigo Ouchi of the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) and Satsuki Eda of the United Social Democratic Party.

Under the agreement, the leaders are seeking to strike accords to avoid fielding duplicate candidates in their effort not to split the anti-LDP vote.

In a news conference that followed the talks among the five, Hata said the alliance would continue to try to entice additional opposition parties—such as another newly formed Sakigake and the Japan New Party (JNP).

Hata heads Shinseito (New Life Party), which was established on June 23 with 44 LDP defectors. Hata is a former finance minister.

A joint policy document by the group said, "we will demonstrate to the public that we will take over the current policies (of successive LDP administrations) on such basic policies as diplomacy and defense policy in creating a new politics."

This assurance, Shinseito sources earlier said, would alleviate voters' concern over a possible policy standoff in a coalition government.

But Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and others have voiced doubts whether a coalition government could adopt the basic policies of successive LDP administrations in view of the left-wing ideology of the SDP, the largest opposition party, on issues such as the constitutional status of the Self-Defense Forces and its stance toward North and South Korea.

Yamahana also defended the party's decision to join the anti-LDP alliance, saying the decision is in line with the SDP's longtime goal of seeking to share power by forming coalitions with other groups.

Yamahana was apparently trying to deflect criticism that he is taking an opportunistic approach by forming an alliance with the Hata group, which has advocated conservative diplomatic and defense policies in contrast to the SDP's left-wing ideology.

Yamahana emphasized that his party succeeded in putting the SDP's longtime slogan of seeking "Peace and Disarmament" into the joint platform of the five-party alliance.

The secession followed a similar breakaway by a group of 10 lower house legislators, who formed a political party called Sakigake (literally Harbinger). The group is led by former LDP legislator Masayoshi Takemura.

The Hata group and five opposition parties forced Miyzawa to dissolve the lower house on June 18 when he failed to survive a motion of no-confidence against his cabinet amid public fury over a series of bribery and mobster scandals involving politicians and the LDP's failure to clear up money-dominated politics.

About 950 candidates are expected to contest the July 18 general election.

The battle for 511 seats in the lower house begins on July 4, the official start of campaigning, but many candidates are already barnstorming in their constituencies across the country.

JNP To Field More Candidates for Jul Election

OW2806055093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0520 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—Japan New Party (JNP) leader Morihiro Hosokawa indicated Monday the party plans to increase the number of its candidates in the July 18 House of Representatives election following its resounding success in Sunday's Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly election.

Hosokawa indicated the JNP will increase the number of candidates running on the party ticket to about 70 instead of 60 as initially planned.

The 13-month-old JNP has so far decided to field 53 candidates for the election. The party has four seats in the House of Councillors but has no seat in the lower house.

Referring to the gains in the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly election, Hosokawa said the JNP will do its best to head toward the lower house election keeping its "sails filled with wind." He said the biggest theme for the upcoming election is to make a decisive transfer of power and that he wants to do his best toward this end.

Hosokawa, a former governor of Kumamoto Prefecture, is expected to announce Wednesday his candidacy from no. 1 constituency in Kumamoto Prefecture for the election.

The JNP's Yuriko Koike, an upper house member, plans to file her candidacy Monday afternoon for the lower house election from no.2 constituency in Hyogo Prefecture.

In Sunday's election, the JNP increased its number of seats in the Tokyo assembly to 20 from two, snaring 12.1 percent of the votes in its first full-scale election. The JNP's two seats in the previous assembly were gained in by-elections.

Analysts said the JNP's gains in the election appeared to be garnered at the expense of the previously leading opposition Social Democratic Party, which saw its number of assembly seats fall dramatically from 32 to 14.

The Liberal Democratic Party, torn by factional strife on a nationwide scale, recorded a marginal gain of two seats to remain on top with 44 of the assembly's 128 seats.

Hosokawa: LDP Rule on 'Verge of Collapse'

OW2706165893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1649 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—Voters have sounded the death knell for one-party rule in Japan by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), the head of the Japan New Party (JNP) said Sunday [27 June] after analyzing ballot preferences in the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly election.

The poll is regarded as a litmus test for the general election to be held on July 18.

Morihiro Hosokawa's party ranked third in the poll, which he said also showed crumbling support for the main opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP).

Hosokawa, a former LDP upper house member, told reporters after his party's victory, "The 1955 regime where the LDP and SDP have been major political players is on the verge of collapse."

Hosokawa was referring to Japan's postwar power system where the LDP—formed 38 years ago in a merger of two conservative parties—has ruled without interruption.

"A sizable amount of votes has been diverted from long-established political parties to our side," Hosokawa said. "Public distrust in old politics is not of a tentative character, but deep-rooted," said Hosokawa, a former reporter for the mass- circulation ASAHI SHIMBUN. He attributed his party's strong performance to its decision to distance itself from the Shinseito Party formed by former Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata and other 43 dissident liberal democrats.

"Many voters supported the Japan New Party in the Tokyo assembly election, as our party has refrained from joining discussion to form a coalition government without first clearing up ambiguities over basic political positions," he said. His remarks coincided with an invitation by Shinseito to four opposition parties to push to form a coalition while retaining the basic policies of successive LDP administrations, particularly in security and defense.

The LDP and other critics have condemned the coalition talks as covering up a deep-rooted policy rift between Shinseito and the socialists over their respective ideologies and policies in order to curry favor with voters.

Hosokawa stopped short of making explicit remarks about possible invitations from both the LDP and anti-LDP camps to form a coalition government after the July 18 elections for the House of Representatives.

However, he did not rule out the possibility of forming a coalition with whichever political parties win or fare well in the July lower house poll.

"As for the issue of forming a coalition, I will think (about it) after the general election," he said.

Meanwhile, LDP Secretary General Seiroku Kajiyama told a news conference, that "long-established parties got a pounding because of public distrust in politics. Voters showed their wariness over their old ways."

However, he commended the decent showing of LDP's candidates, saying, "The LDP accomplished its minimum goal. The candidates waged a good election battle in view of strict public criticism against our party."

The LDP increased its Tokyo assembly seats by two to 44. The party had took a beating in the previous 1989 assembly election that followed the 1989 Recruit stock-for-favors and sex scandals involving senior politicians.

Kajiyama vowed to fight the election battle for the general election "by placing priority on the theme of stamping out corruption." He indicated the LDP's desire to form a coalition with the JNP if the LDP loses an outright majority in the upcoming vote.

"I want (the JNP) to grow up to become a political party capable of sharing responsibility with us, while improving each other through competition," he said.

Kajiyama ascribed the JNP's strong showing to "a yearning by voters for something unknown. Half the votes garnered by them came from people who had supported the Social Democratic Party, while the other half came from voters who got wary of our old ways," he said. "It is important for us to ponder upon the election results and translate our analysis into reality," he said.

Meanwhile, a Shinseito executive described the election results "reflecting public criticism against long-established parties."

Masayoshi Takemura, who formed another new party called "Sakigake" on June 21 along with other nine LDP rebels, told reporters he was "very encouraged" by the JNP's strong showing.

Hata, a leader of a revolt that forced Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa to dissolve the lower house and call the general election, told reporters, "The low voter turnout ratio evidenced the depth of distrust in politics. The strong performance of the JNP can be interpreted as signs that our party will make powerful progress in the general election."

SDP Secretary General Hirotaka Akamatsu told reporters, "This is our defeat. We could not collect the votes of people who were critical of the LDP."

The SDP gave up 18 seats for just 14 seats. It ranked fourth in final showings.

Tokyo Voter Turnout Rate at Record Low

OW2706130893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1218 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 27 KYODO—Voter turnout for the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly election Sunday plummeted to a record low of 51.43 percent amid growing distrust in politics in a crucial test of support for new and long-established parties, election officials said. Ballot counting was under way at 64 tallying stations set up in Tokyo's 42 constituencies. Tokyo has 9.3 million eligible voters—about 10 percent of the nation's total.

The vote came only nine days after Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa failed to survive a no-confidence motion in the House of Representatives, forcing him to dissolve the lower house and call a national parliamentary vote on July 18.

Voting for the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly election is regarded as a crucial test of whether new political forces and opposition parties nave the muscle to overthrow the administration of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in the July vote. The LDP has governed Japan without interruption since 1955.

Voters are angered at a string of bibery and mobster scandals involving LDP holiticians.

Voting started at 7:00 A.M. at 1,780 balloting sites and closed at 6:00 P.M. The outcome is expected to be announced just before 11 P.M.

Of 258 candidates, there were a record 42 women, vying for the assembly's 128 seats. The campaign kicked off on June 18.

The dissolution of the House of Representatives fell on the same day as the no-confidence motion which went through with the help of 34 rebellious lower chamber legislators of the Hata group, which later seceded from the LDP.

The Tokyo poll is the first large-scale election after the defection of 54 LDP members, who went on to form two new political parties aimed at achieving political reform.

Among the parties competing for votes, the LDP fielded 72 candidates, the Social Democratic Party (SDP) 34, Komeito 25, the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) 42, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) four.

The popular Japan New Party (JNP), led by former Kumamoto Prefecture Gov. Morihiro Hosokawa, put up 22 candidates. Tsutomu Hata's Shinseito (New Life Party), comprising 44 LDP breakaway LDP members, fielded one.

JNP Gains; LDP Increases Slightly

OW2706161193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1551 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 27 KYODO—The up-and-coming Japan New Party (JNP) scored a complete victory in the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly election on Sunday [27 June] while the besieged governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) narrowly increased its strength. Sunday's polls could set a trend for the July 18 general election for the House of Representatives, when the long-dominant LDP may lose its simple majority and surrender its 38-year unbroken rule of government.

The JNP won 20 of the 128-seat assembly, 18 more than in the last election, while the LDP won 44, only two seats more, the Election Management Commission said. But the No. 1 opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) suffered a setback with only 14 seats, less than half the 32 seats it held before the election.

The No. 2 opposition Komeito obtained 25 seats, down one, the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) 13, the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) 2, and independents and others 10.

Turnout was a record low of 51.43 percent, off 7.31 percentage points registered at the previous Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly election in 1989 and lower than the past lowest record of 53.5 percent in 1985, commission officials said. A total of 9.3 million residents in Tokyo were eligible to cast ballots, representing about 10 percent of the nation's electorate.

Voting started at 7:00 A.M. [2200 GMT] at 1,780 balloting sites and closed at 6:00 P.M. [0900 GMT].

The election came after Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa dissolved the lower house for a snap general election on June 18 in the face of his defeat in an opposition-led motion of no-confidence against his cabinet.

Miyazawa, who failed to follow up on oft-stated pledges to enact political reform legislation to overhaul Japan's electoral system and tighten curbs on political funding, was asked not to hit the streets to support LDP candidates.

In the July 18 general election, the LDP risks losing power for the first time in 38 years since 1955, when the party was founded. More than 50 legislators have seceded from the party since June 18 to form splinter parties.

Of 258 candidates for the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly, there were a record 42 women, vying for the assembly's 128 seats. The campaign kicked off on June 18.

Among the parties competing for votes, the LDP fielded 72 candidates, the SDP 34, Komeito 25, the JCP 42, and the DSP four.

The JNP, led by former Kumamoto Prefecture Gov. Morihiro Hosokawa, put up 22 candidates. Former Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata's Shinseito (New Life Party), comprising 44 breakaway LDP Diet members, fielded one.

The SDP tripled its number of seats in the 1989 election on the strength of voter anger over the introduction of 3 percent consumption tax and the recruit stocks-for-favors scandal.

This time, however, the SDP could not even retain the number of seats it held prior to the election.

Shinseito also failed to win a seat, although it is expected to fare well in the coming lower house election.

The number of female winners was 11, compared with 17 elected in the previous election.

Kono: Voters 'Honoring' LDP

OW2806055693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0539 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—The increased strength of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly suggests that voters were honoring the party's achievements, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said Monday.

In Sunday's Tokyo assembly election, the LDP retained its status as the largest party in the 128-seat assembly by taking 44 seats, an increase of two seats over its preelection strength, while most other established parties suffered setbacks.

The top government spokesman also said the LDP devoted much energy to electioneering amid public disgust with the party, which grew after Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa failed to keep his oft-stated pledge to carry out political reform.

Miyazawa dissolved the House of Representatives for a snap general election in the face of his defeat in an opposition no- confidence motion against his cabinet on June 18.

The Tokyo poll is widely regarded as a weather vane for the July 18 general election for the lower house in which the LDP faces challenges from new political forces as well as established opposition parties.

Kono said the outcome of the election reflected voter expectations of the up-and-coming Japan New Party (JNP), pointing out that the record low voter turnout of 51.43 percent signified strong distrust of established parties.

The 13-month-old JNP, led by former Kumamoto Gov. Morihiro Hosokawa, made a strong showing, winning 20 seats, compared with its preelection strength of two seats.

The No. 1 opposition party, the Social Democratic Party, which tripled its seats in the previous election in 1989, lost 18 seats and now holds only 14.

Komeito, which had 26 seats before the poll, had all its 25 candidates elected, while the Japanese Communist Party retained its 13 preelection seats.

Kono also indicated the SDP's loss came on the heels of its move to study the possibility of allying with Shinseito (New Life Party), an LDP breakaway party led by former Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata.

Meanwhile, Miyazawa told reporters at his official residence that the LDP's performance in the Tokyo vote meant his party put up a good fight.

Tokyo Gov. Shunichi Suzuki, speaking at a news conference, said he hopes to improve relations with the JNP because the party will play a key role in the metropolitan assembly.

Dailies Comment on Results

OW2806010493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0001 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—Major Japanese newspapers said Monday [28 June] the results of the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly election reflect voters' distrust of the old political parties.

Tokyo voters made a big swing to the one-year-old Japan New Party (JNP), which saw 20 of its 22 candidates win seats on the 128-member chamber.

The YOMIURI SHIMBUN, Japan's largest-circulation daily, said in an editorial that voters are abandoning the established parties which have been unable to reform themselves.

The Social Democratic Party (SDP) has been unable to drop its ideology-oriented character and the dominant Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) "self-destructed" by failing to deliver the promise of political reform, the conservative daily said. Only 14 SDP candidates won, down sharply from the preelection strength of 32, while the LDP captured 44 seats, up only one from the last election four years ago in which it was badly hit by resentment at the introduction of a consumption tax.

In its editorial, the liberal ASAHI SHIMBUN said Sunday's election results "fully portended change" and called on the JNP to further clarify its policy and "political posture."

The YOMIURI and the leading economic daily NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, referring to the record low voter turnout of 51.4 percent, said nearly half of Tokyo's 9.3 million eligible voters did not vote due to the absence of pocketbook issues like the consumption tax.

Left unanswered during the election campaign were such local issues as the metropolitan government's huge budget deficit and garbage collection, the YOMIURI said.

The MAINICHI SHIMBUN said the election results demonstrated the beginning of the end for cozy cloakroom politics and the powerful liaison between politicians and bureaucrats, which places producers' interests ahead of consumers'.

Police on Alert for G-7 Summit, Election

OW2806033493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0314 GMT 28 Jun 93

["News Focus" by Shigeru Hishiyama]

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—Japanese police will reach the climax of a nearly four-month state of alert when the Tokyo summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized nations takes place July 7 to 9. Since April when Emperor Akihito visited Okinawa and continuing in June for the wedding of Crown Prince Naruhito and former diplomat Masako Owada, Tokyo has taken on the appearance at times of a city under a state of siege, with thousands of police and scores of gray armored police trucks visible on downtown streets.

For the Tokyo summit, more than 30,000 police officers will be patrolling the streets, subway and railway stations, and even searching waterways and palace moats for bombs to ensure the safety of the leaders of the G-7, as well as Russian President Boris Yeltsin. The Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) alone will deploy 26,000 officers, roughly 65 percent of its force, augmented by some 4,000 from prefectural police headquarters, said Tadao Ando, the head of the MPD.

Police sources said the total police force will reach 36,000 during the summit, second only to 37,000 officers mobilized at the time of the November 1990 enthronement of Emperor Akihito.

Yeltsin's visit for talks with the G-7 leaders is complicating the security operation. Ando said police have to face two possible threats—one from left-wing extremists opposed to the summit and the other from right-wing ultranationalists incensed by Yeltsin's presence.

Rightists will use the occasion to press demands for the return of islands off Hokkaido seized by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II. Yeltsin twice canceled visits to Japan in the past 10 months because of Japan's insistence on taking up the territorial issue. Ando said right-wingers would step up their anti-Russian sound truck activities and could event attempt to harm Yeltsin. Rightists often parade through Tokyo's streets in militaristic-looking trucks equipped with massive loud speakers blaring out messages of denunciation of the target of the moment—be it Russia, China or corrupt politicians.

There have been nine acts of violence by rightists against the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) between January and November last year, including an attempt to assassinate former LDP kingpin Shin Kanemaru. Police arrested 265 alleged rightists during the same period.

Police are also keeping a lookout for leftist radicals who have launched projectiles at buildings. During the 1986 summit, leftist extremists fired five projectiles at the Akasaka guest palace, the site of a reception for summit members just before the talks. The projectiles had a range of over three kilometers, but did little damage. Extremists also disrupted train services in central Tokyo by launching simultaneous sabotage attacks on 16 railway stations.

They are now suspected of developing new high-performance weapons, the police sources said.

Police have maintained surveillance on some 29,000 members of five radical groups, including the Chukakuha and Kakurokyo, the sources said. The two latter groups launched more than 20 attacks on targets such as residences and buildings related to the Imperial Household Agency since the start of this year.

The summit is one security headache. Another is protecting candidates campaigning for the July 18 general election for the House of Representatives. Police will have to assign some of their forces to protect candidates, some of them cabinet members.

Police sources said the embassies of six of the G-7 member countries—Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States—are under guard and security checks will intensify at Narita and Haneda Airports.

G-7 Deputy Finance Ministers Lay Summit Groundwork

OW2506142993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1417 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 25 KYODO—The Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial powers will call on industrialized nations with current account surpluses to boost their domestic demand in an economic declaration to be adopted at the July 7-9 Tokyo summit, Japanese officials said Friday night. This was agreed on at a meeting of G-7 deputy finance ministers held in Chiba, east of Tokyo, on Friday with the aim of laying the groundwork for the Tokyo summit.

The economic declaration is expected to say the surplus nations need to increase their domestic demand to secure global economic growth and rectify trade imbalances, according to the Japanese officials.

Japan is the sole country with a current account surplus among the G-7 nations. The other six countries are Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and the United States.

At the Chiba meeting, the fourth of its kind, the U.S. is believed to have urged Japan to take additional fiscal measures to whittle down its huge trade surplus.

"It seems unavoidable that the surplus issue will be referred to in the economic declaration," said a Japanese Government official, who declined to be identified. "All we can do is to seek to prevent too tough wording so that Japan will not be mentioned by name in the declaration."

The current meeting of G-7 deputy finance ministers lasts until Sunday morning [27 June]. The discussion is expected to focus on macroeconomic policy coordination and ways to jump-start the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

In addition, the personal emissaries of the G-7 leaders will discuss aid to Russia, notably a proposed fund to help privatize state-run enterprises in Russia.

G-7 Declaration To Mention 'Surplus' States

OW2706093493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0911 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 27 KYODO—The Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized powers will call on countries with current account surpluses to boost domestic demand to help secure a recovery of the world economy and correct trade imbalances, Japanese officials said Sunday. The request will be made clear in an economic declaration to be adopted at the G-7 summit in Tokyo from July 7 to 9, they said.

Japan is the sole country with a large current account surplus among the G-7 countries. The other six are Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and the United States.

The declaration also will refer to the determination of the seven countries to bring the long-stalled Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks to a successful conclusion by the end of the year. These form part of a draft of the declaration worked out by the personal representatives of the G-7 leaders at a three-day meeting that ended Sunday in Chiba, east of Tokyo.

The Japanese officials also said the economic declaration will not mention any U.S.-proposed numerical targets of real economic growth rates, current account surpluses or deficits the G-7 countries are to achieve.

The U.S. was reported to have suggested that each nation in the group strive to attain real economic growth of 3 percent a year and curb current account surpluses or deficits to less than 2 percent of gross domestic product. But, the U.S. proposal met strong opposition from most other countries, which maintained that such goals would make it difficult to conduct flexible macroeconomic policies, Japanese officials said.

The participants agreed that the economic declaration will deal with four main issues—revitalization of the world economy, the upholding of a multilateral trade system, continued increased aid to Russia and assistance to the developing world, according to the officials. In addition, environmental issues will be referred to in the declaration, they said.

On aid to Russia, the personal deputies of the G-7 leaders agreed to consider boosting a proposed fund to promote privatization of state-run Russian enterprises from the initially planned 500 million dollars to more than 1 billion dollars.

Miyazawa Going Into G-7 Summit as 'Lame Duck'

OW2806014293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0109 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Article by Takehiko Kajita; first in a series on G-7 leaders: "Miyazawa Goes Into G-7 Summit as Lame Duck"]

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa is unlikely to have much to say at the Tokyo summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations on July 7-9 as he is perceived both at home and abroad as a lame duck.

After a humiliating defeat in a no-confidence vote against his cabinet on June 18, speculation abounds that the 73-year-old Miyazawa will be forced to retire if the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) loses its majority in the House of Representatives in the July 18 general election.

The LDP, in unbroken power since 1955, currently holds 228 of the lower house's 512 seats, after more than 50 of its members sided with the opposition in the no-confidence motion and subsequently formed splinter parties.

Since taking office in November 1991, Miyazawa has experienced disastrously low levels of public support. A recent television survey shows his approval rating has slipped below 10 percent.

When Miyazawa became premier he was hailed as a politician well- versed in economic matters and foreign policy and with a good command of English. He is now widely perceived as a "faceless" leader incapable of leading the country at a time when Japan faces a number of domestic and international challenges.

The passage of the no-confidence motion against his cabinet dashed Miyazawa's hopes of impressing the public with his chairmanship at the G-7 summit and seeking a further term as LDP president, a post which until recently automatically brought with it prime ministership.

Miyazawa's two-year term as LDP president expires in September.

Miyazawa, who hails from a Hiroshima Prefecture family active in politics since before World War II, spent the early part of his adult life as a fast-track bureaucrat at the Finance Ministry. He has a reputation, however, of aloofness and disdaining to get involved in political wheelings and dealings despite his 40-year-long career as a politician.

A graduate of the University of Tokyo's Law Department, Miyazawa was an able secretary to his political mentor, the late Hayato Ikeda, when Ikeda was finance minister.

Miyazawa assumed the reins of office when the LDP could find no one else after former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu gave up because of his failed attempts to carry out political reform.

Like Kaifu, Miyazawa appears to be on the way out because of his failure to live up to his often-stated pledge to see through political reform legislation aimed chiefly at overhauling Japan's electoral system and tightening curbs on political funding.

Japan has been shaken by a seemingly endless series of political scandals, including the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mob case that led to the downfall of former LDP kingpin Shin Kanemaru.

Miyazawa's failure to keep his promise on political reform intensified public criticism of him for his alleged lack of leadership. One jibe goes, "Miyazawa finally proved to be a Mr. Kaifu who can speak English," meaning he is as inept as his predecessor.

Quadrilateral Talks Set in Toronto for 30 Jun

OW2806080893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0741 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—Four major trade partners will hold a working-level meeting Wednesday in Toronto, Canada, to continue market access discussions under the Uruguay Round of world trade negotiations, a senior Japanese farm ministry official said Monday [28 June].

Akio Kyoya, vice minister of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, also told reporters the meeting among Canada, the European Community (EC), Japan, and the United States is aimed at breaking a deadlock on sensitive trade issues. The issues include proposals to remove or cut tariffs on textile imports by the U.S., electronics product imports by the EC, and farm and forestry product imports by Japan, he said.

The quadrilateral group ended two days of talks in Tokyo on Thursday after agreeing to hold a ministerial meeting July 6 on the eve of the Tokyo summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations.

Japan will be represented at the Toronto meeting by Ambassador Toshinobu Akao, who is in charge of the Uruguay Round negotiations.

U.S., Japanese Experts Want Clear Stock Rules

OW2506125593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1217 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 25 KYODO—U.S. and Japanese experts called Friday for clear and fair rules governing the trading of stock futures and other equity "derivatives."

In a first bilateral working group meeting on the subject, officials of Japan's Finance Ministry and the U.S. Treasury Department and Securities and Exchange Commission agreed to hold future talks on the rules of such trading, both sides said.

They agreed that rules on trading in such derivatives as futures, options and warrants should be clear, understandable and made known in advance to all affected parties. Rules should not be arbitrary or discriminatory, they said.

Friday's talks, which grew out of Japan-U.S. financial market talks, were announced Wednesday by Vice Finance Minister Tadao Chino, who expressed concern about "excessive" futures trading and mentioned possible position limits.

A Finance Ministry participant in the talks said some specific issues came up but that the meeting was a "general exchange of views."

The Tokyo Stock Exchange has urged curbs on derivatives, and some officials have blamed stock market volatility and slumping share prices partly on the effect of issues derived from stocks.

The U.S. side, representing brokerages adept in sophisticated derivatives trading, said in a statement that both sides agreed that "appropriate prudential regulations are necessary" and should "balance the objectives of investor protection, market liquidity and market efficiency."

Neither side offered a schedule on future talks.

Computer Industry: Market Not Closed to U.S.

OW2606025493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0107 GMT 26 Jun 93

[By Hisa Miyatake]

[Text] Tokyo, June 26 KYODO—Japan's local governments are being challenged by the United States to inject more U.S. personal computers (PCs) into the reluctant Japanese school market. U.S. Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown, who visited Japan in April, said the Japanese school system, which seems unwilling to use foreign products, forms another barrier to foreign companies.

Citing reports that foreign personal computers produced by such makers as International Business Machines Corp. (IBM) and Apple Computer Inc. account for less than 5 percent of the Japanese public school market, Brown said the fact demonstrates insufficient efforts by Tokyo to boost government procurements of foreign products.

Industry sources said foreign PC makers have roughly 20 percent of the total PC market in the private sector.

"Unless some measures are taken, Japan's public schools should be dominated by Japanese PCs," said Hiroyuki Iba, researcher at the Nikko Research Center, affiliated with Nikko Securities Co. "The U.S. trade authority seems to believe that way."

Some 300,000 PC units have been so far introduced into elementary and junior high schools nationwide and the same amount of machines will be added as part of the government's new social infrastructure building policy, meaning a new 200 billion yen market will be created.

"Customer support systems by Japanese makers to school teachers are sufficient," Iba said. "The U.S.

Government apparently believes such customer-first service excessive and regards it as invisible non-tariff barrier for foreign PC makers."

However, it is difficult to find clear evidence that shows the Japanese market is excluding U.S. makers in the public sector.

"It is a business matter rather than a trade issue," an industry analyst said.

U.S. makers are behind education systems for Japanese children, citing there are more than 1,500 education software programs for NEC Corp.'s popular 98 models, while Fujitsu Ltd. was the first PC maker to release cd-roms for education, he said. [sentence as received]

A spokeswoman of IBM Japan Ltd. said she does not believe there is a discrimination policy in Japan against U.S. makers.

"Japanese makers have long established sales knowhows and sufficient support systems for their users," she said. She gave an example that the Tokyo metropolitan government decided to use a 450 million yen IBM system in 1987 among other computer makers.

"In Shibuya Ward in Tokyo, Apple's PCs will be installed in 22 public elementary schools by fiscal 1995," said an Apple Japan Inc. spokesman. "But it took more than a year to get the final decision among the ward assembly, the education board, and its PC selecting committee." A decisive factor for adopting Apple's Macintosh models was that school children and their teachers strongly supported the models, he said.

However, many industry analysts pointed out that the procurement system of the local government is incomprehensive. For instance, the Sakai city government, in Osaka, carried out a price competition in the final stage of PC procurement procedure for its junior schools and a Japanese maker eventually won in the bid, although its PC selecting committee advised to adopt U.S. models.

Keiji Tanabe of Compaq K.K., a Japanese subsidiary of Compaq Computer Corp., said it is really tough for a new company like his to penetrate the Japanese market.

"It is also hard for us to bring our executives in the parent company in Texas to understand the Japanese procurement system," he said. According to Tanabe, Eckhard Pseiffer, president of Compaq Computer, who visited Japan in May, repeated, "It's complicated and hard to understand," when he was taught about Japanese procurement mechanism.

Tokyo, Washington Open Preliminary Trade Talks

OW2706062393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0603 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 27 KYODO—Japan and the United States started subcabinet-level talks in Tokyo on Sunday afternoon [27 June] to set the stage for bilateral trade framework consultations, Japanese Government officials said.

The latest talks follow the meeting in Washington on June 11 and 12 and are scheduled to last until Monday afternoon. The trade framework talks were proposed when Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa met with U.S. President Bill Clinton in April.

The Clinton administration has demanded that Japan halve its current account surplus from the present 3 to 3.5 percent of its gross domestic product as a means of reducing its large trade surplus. It has also urged Tokyo to set numerical targets for its imports of manufactured goods to secure greater foreign access to Japanese markets.

The Japanese, on the other hand, have rejected such U.S. demands, saying that setting numerical targets would lead to "managed trade."

With no signs of concession on either side, diplomatic observers believe it extremely hard for the two countries to reach broad agreement on the trade framework talks before a Japan-U.S. summit as initially planned. The bilateral summit is to be held on the occasion of the July 7-9 Tokyo summit of seven industrialized powers.

At the Tokyo meeting on Sunday and Monday, the Japanese are likely to propose the formation of a new bilateral panel to discuss ways to whittle down Japan's current account surplus instead of setting specific targets for surplus reduction, informed sources said.

The U.S. side appears likely to hold fast to its policy of seeking "multiple benchmarks" to measure how much Japan is opening its markets, they said.

U.S. 'Likely To Defer' Construction Sanctions

OW2706095193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0935 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Washington, June 27 KYODO—In an eleventh-hour decision, the Clinton administration is likely to defer imposing sanctions aimed at forcing Japan to open its construction market, a congressional source said Sunday.

The source told KYODO News Service that many congressmen do not want sanctions slapped on Japan. The measures originally were slated to take effect at the end of the month.

U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor threatened on April 30 that his office would impose sanctions if no settlement was reached by the end of June on Japan's alleged discriminatory bidding practices for public works projects.

Washington hopes Japan will abolish its current bidding system, under which only contractors licensed by the government are permitted to bid for major public works projects. But Construction Minister Kishiro Nakamura said earlier this month that Japan has no intention of changing the bidding system.

The U.S. congressional source noted that Tokyo recently softened its stance in favor of discussing the construction market issue in bilateral consultations. The source also said that Clinton is empowered to postpone the imposition of sanctions if he considers it to be in the national interest.

Tokyo Panel Challenges U.S. Trade Policy

OW2806091593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0905 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—Japan should no longer regulate exports voluntarily nor pay heed to U.S. pressure to set numerical targets for imports, a government-commissioned panel said Monday in a report challenging U.S. trade policy. The report, prepared on behalf of the Fair Trade Commission (FTC), said both self-imposed restraints on exports and numerical targets for imports run counter to fair competition.

"An expansion of imports by setting numerical targets, which now comes into question between Japan and the United States, is questionable in light of competition policy because it would distort competition in the market," the report said. "Our country should not set any numerical targets to promote imports," concluded the report, compiled by the FTC's panel on the antimonopoly law and international affairs.

The report comes out at a time when the United States has been pressing Japan to set numerical import targets as a way of measuring progress in freeing markets. Japan has rejected the U.S. demand, calling it "managed trade."

The report said it is up to each individual company to decide what and how much it will import from which country so fair competition can be maintained.

It said a low level of import volume does not necessarily mean a market is closed to imports and suggested that such a problem, if based on government regulations in an importing country, should be resolved by dismantling them.

The report will serve as a base for the FTC in drawing up specific measures on its antimonopoly policy.

Split With U.S. Over Numerical Trade Targets

OW2806110093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1039 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—Japan and the United States remain at odds Monday in talks on a U.S. demand for numerical targets to measure results of cuts in Japan's trade surplus, Japanese Government sources said.

The bilateral subcabinet-level talks which began Sunday so far roughly agreed that a new framework, proposed at the summit meeting in mid-April between Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and U.S. President Bill Clinton, will deal with such issues as Japan's license systems, ways to reduce the U.S. budget deficit, and global environmental protection, the sources said. The second round of framework talks, following the first in Washington on June 11-12, are expected to continue on and off until late at night.

Japan strongly rejected a U.S. request to curb its current account surplus to less than 2 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP), they said. The U.S. side explained that numerical targets are designed only to measure progress in correcting the trade imbalance and opening up Japanese markets, not as grounds for unilateral sanctions, they said. However, Tokyo objected to any kind of targets which could be regarded as commitments, they said.

'Low-Profile' Trade Talks With U.S. Progress

OW2806042193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0356 GMT 28 Jun 93

["New Focus"; third in series on Japanese-U.S. trade disputes]

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—While some Japan-U.S. trade disputes have burst into the open, financial market talks have generally flown below the radar threshold of the general public's attention. A decade of low-profile talks have lacked the acrimony and telegenic quality of congressmen smashing Japanese products or Japanese politicians being accused of pocketing huge illegal contributions from favored contractors.

But Washington and Tokyo have not been idle on financial issues ranging from stock futures to banking to insurance. Even as Japan was announcing the latest concessions last week, the U.S. side indicated it plans to keep pushing.

"Japan's financial markets still remain quite closed, compared to other financial centers," said Lawrence Summers, Treasury undersecretary for international affairs.

Both sides acknowledge progress but Washington continues to point to unmet demands in such "priority areas" as access to corporate underwriting and easing capital requirements on mutual funds and restrictions on cross-border transactions.

A Treasury official said the United States is "pleased with the progress" that led Japan last week to pledge far greater access to its 32 trillion yen welfare pension fund market.

Vice Finance Minister Tadao Chino announced plans to scrap restrictions that have blocked foreign investment advisers from competing to manage more than the 2 trillion to 3 trillion yen "new money" portion of the vast pool.

But the U.S. side expressed concern about simultaneous Japanese moves. As Chino revealed the pension fund concession to reporters, he also announced vaguely defined talks on stock index futures and other "derivative" issues. Fretting about "excessive" futures trading, which some Japanese securities officials blame for stock price drops and volatility, Chino hinted at position limits on brokerages.

U.S. firms, however, are adept at sophisticated derivatives trading. Asked about those talks, Summers said, "We're very concerned about regulation that goes beyond prudential concerns."

While Washington accepts the need for "fair and appropriate regulations," it is "seeking to reduce the management of trade that works to the disadvantage of American firms," he said. Summers played down attempts to plead special Japanese conditions, referring to a much-derided claim from the past that Japan's unique snow justified excluding foreign-made skis.

"Just as Japanese snow isn't different from other snow, it's possible to exaggerate the difference between financial markets," he said, but declined more specific comment on the bilateral financial market talks.

Overall, Japan and the United States have made "steady progress" in talks on financial markets, said Jesper Koll, chief economist at S.G. Warburg Securities (Japan) Inc.

"It's not one of those things where you take one step forward and two steps back," he said. "It's two steps forward and maybe one step back."

The U.S. and Japan have been treading that path since then Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita and Treasury Secretary Donald Regan agreed in 1983 that the two countries would coordinate monetary policies. The dollar was worth about 230 yen then. With the U.S. currency now barely buying 100 yen, the coordination continues and the talks now span an array of financial services.

In banking, changes have been quite visible. Last week, the government loosened curbs that had prevented commercial banks from setting interest rates freely on time deposits.

The effort that imposed international capital-adequacy standards on Japanese banks "was designed almost to hobble Japanese banks," which were said to be "using cheap money to throw their weight around," said analyst David Threadgold at Barclays de Zoete Wedd Securities (Japan) Ltd.

"And it's worked," he said. "They're now a lot less aggressive."

But in such areas as traditionally taboo cancer insurance with little or no developed market, the Finance Ministry has been happy to allow a showcase opening, Threadgold said.

In deregulating broader areas of nonlife insurance to allow cutthroat competition, "the tendency has been to look into the abyss and then draw back," he said. "You've only got to look at the mess the American insurance market is in."

In financial areas that Japan is redy to open, Threadgold said, the Americans find they are "pushing on an open door—or a half-open door anyway."

Indian Minister on Perceived Protectionism

OW2806094893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0923 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—Visiting Indian Finance Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh on Monday voiced concern over what he perceived as an increasing inclination among major powers toward protectionism.

Singh conveyed requests from the Group of 15 (G-15) developing nations, for which India serves as chairman, to Japanese Foreign Minister Kabun Muto prior to the Tokyo summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations on July 7-9.

Besides concern over the perceived protectionist tilt, the Indian minister also urged a quick end to the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks, stalled chiefly due to farm trade rows among big nations.

He also told Muto that developing nations are afraid that massive aid to Russia and Eastern Europe from wealthy countries will deprive other needy states of badly-needed funds.

Singh also proposed unofficial dialogues between the G-15 and the G-7 over development of environment protection-related technologies, an idea to which Muto responded positively.

Urges N-S 'Informal' Dialogue

OW2806100293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0937 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tokyo, June 28 KYODO—Indian Finance Minister Manmohan Singh called Monday for a "regular and informal" dialogue between the Group of Seven (G-7) advanced countries and the Group of 15 (G-15) developing countries, Foreign Ministry officials said. Officials said Singh filed the request at talks with Foreign Minister Kabun Muto ahead of the July 7-9 summit in Tokyo of the leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States.

Singh is visiting Japan to meet Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Tuesday to deliver a message from G-15

Chairman Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao outlining G-15's requests of the advanced countries. Miyazawa will host the G-7 summit.

The G-15, formed in 1989 from moderate members of the non-aligned movement and the Group of 77 (G-77) developing nations, now consists of Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Venezuela and Zimbabwe.

Singh was quoted as saying G-15 countries are concerned that G-7 countries may divert aid earmarked for the developing world to countries allied with the former Soviet Union.

During the talks that lasted for over an hour, the Indian finance minister also said developing countries are concerned about the trend of protectionism in G-7 countries and want to see the protracted Uruguay Round of global trade negotiations brought to a successful and early conclusion. He said another issue that could be discussed between the G-7 and G-15 would be the transfer of environmentally-safe technologies to developing countries.

Singh said such talks could also tackle the issue of calls for a realignment of the United Nations Security Council to make it more democratic in line with efforts to build a new international order.

Officials said Muto noted that Japan has been stressing to its G-7 partners the need to ensure that more help for the former East bloc countries does not translate into less help for the world's developing countries.

Singh is scheduled to meet Wednesday with Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi.

North Korea

'Sources': Pyongyang, Israel Held Beijing Talks

OW2606081293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0734 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Beijing, June 26 KYODO—An official of the Israeli government held talks with North Korean diplomats Friday [25 June] in Beijing to persuade Pyongyang not to sell ballistic missiles to Middle Eastern countries, diplomatic sources said Saturday.

The meeting between Israeli Foreign Ministry's deputy director general Eytan Benzur and North Korean diplomats centered on missile sales to Syria and Iran, the sources said. The names of the Korean diplomats are not known.

Israel, concerned about sales of North korea's medium-range ballistic missiles to Iran and Syria, called on North Korea to stop sales of missiles, with a range of 1,000 kilometers, which could easily hit Israel from Iran, the sources said. Iraq fired 39 Scud missiles at Israel during the 1991 Persian Gulf war.

Israel proposed that if Pyongyang gives up sales of missiles to Middle East countries, the Jewish nation will provide economic assistance to North Korea, the sources said.

The talks, believed to be preliminary in nature, also touched on North Korea's threatened withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT).

Israel and North Korea failed to reach an accord but agreed to continue the talks, the sources said.

North Korea initially announced its decision to pull out of the NPT in March, but agreed to suspend its decision after high level talks with the United States in early June.

The South Korean YONHAP NEWS AGENCY has reported South Korea's displeasure over the advent of talks, saying the talks would be regarded as an unfriendly act on the part of the Israelis and that talks are untimely in view of North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons development.

North Korea has long been suspected of selling missile technology to Middle East countries and would lose 1 billion dollars by canceling missiles sales to Iran, according to YONHAP.

Premier Issues Statement on North-South Talks

SK2606000093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2208 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Statement [tamhwa] issued by Kang Song-san, premier of the DPRK Administration Council on 26 June—read by announcer]

[Text] Comrade Kang Song-san, premier of the DPRK Administration Council, issued the following statement [tamhwa] on 26 June in connection with the fact that our proposal on exchanging special envoys between the top leaders [choegowigup] of the North and South is unable to take place because of the South side's unjust attitude regardless of our persevering efforts.

Statement by Comrade Kang Song-san, premier of the DPRK Administration Council:

On 25 May our side had proposed the exchange of special envoys between the top leaders of the North and South. One month has passed since then. Our proposal on the exchange of special envoys between the North and South is the most realistic and reasonable way for negotiations so that a breakthrough can be opened in realizing the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and achieving the country's peaceful reunification under the prevailing situation.

Public opinion at home and abroad highly assessed our proposal on the exchange of special envoys as an epoch-making and turning point measure which took into consideration the new environment presented in the 10-point program of great national unity and the reality that a new regime has set sail in South Korea. They also expressed active support and welcome to our proposal.

Out of a noble desire to quickly resolve the nation's important issue on the united strength of the North and South and a political decision [chongchijokkyoltan] by the two sides' top leaders, we have so far incessantly [hansidomomchujianko] made efforts to exchange special envoys at an early date, sincerely explained the profound meaning and justness of our proposal to the South side in a total of six letters and telephone messages, and repeatedly urged the South side to affirmatively respond to the proposal.

However, from the beginning, clinging to their wrong confrontational notion, the South Korean authorities replaced our proposal for an exchange of special envoys, which will surely lead to detente, peace, and reunification, with the proposal for a contact of working-level delegates to the North-South high-level talks; replaced a discussion of procedural matters for the exchange of special envoys with a discussion on the nuclear issue; and, thus, built an artificial obstacle to opening a new road of dialogue between the North and South.

Even though the South side has dealt with our proposal for the exchange of special envoys in a negative attitude, we have patiently helped it have a better understanding of the points of which it had a poor understanding; called on it to assume a national stand when it deviated from the stand of national independence; showed our magnanimity by saying that we are willing to discuss the nuclear issue first if our proposal for the exchange of special envoys is implemented; and has made every effort to exchange special envoys, which all the fellow countrymen expect.

Truly, our proposal and our efforts to implement it show sincerity never before seen in North-South relations. Nevertheless, the South side looked away from our proposal for the exchange of special envoys under this pretext or that, and, finally, again insisted in the 22 June telephone message that working-level officials meet and have basic consultations on the nuclear issue. In this way, it virtually made clear its stand of totally rejecting our proposal for the exchange of special envoys.

The South side rejected [pujong] our proposal for the exchange of special envoys in a telephone message addressed by its prime minister, and, even the top person in authority [choegodanggukcha] openly expressed such a view on many occasions.

Recently, in his news conference marking 100 days after his inauguration, the South Korean ruler [chipkwonja] found fault with our nonexistent nuclear issue and said that he cannot shake hands with the counterpart possessing nuclear weapons. Furthermore, he visited the whole area of the Military Demarcation Line and appeared at a meeting of key military leaders of the three branches of the armed forces and once again found fault with us by saying that peace can be maintained only when there is strength and that every preparation should be made. Thus he instilled confrontation and war fever. This in reality was words and actions overturning the remark that he wants to meet with us and rejecting our proposal for exchanging special envoys.

Moreover, what cannot be overlooked is the fact that regardless of our repeated proposal for peaceful negotiations, the South Korean authorities are answering by holding the provocative Ulchi-93 civilian and government joint military exercise. The Ulchi-93 exercise is an act of thrusting a knife at the fellow countrymen trying to hold hands and rejecting dialogue itself.

Since the South Korean authorities have no intention to reconcile and unite with the fellow countrymen, they are saying that they will not abolish the National Security Law that opposes us, and is running amok outside to borrow the strength of outside forces to resolve the country's denuclearization issue which should be ironed out by the fellow countrymen.

We cannot but turn our attention to the fact that the insidious acts by the South Korean authorities have been carried out all the more severely after the DPRK-U.S. joint statement was announced and that they are moving to abort our proposal for exchanging special envoys.

I regret the fact that regardless of persevering efforts during the past one month, our proposal to exchange special envoys could not be realized because of the South side's unjust attitude. There will be a time when those people opposing the exchange of special envoys will regret it.

The South side is not accepting our proposal to exchange special envoys and is repeatedly making remarks and behaving in a way that further aggravates North-South relations. Therefore, words such as civilian regime and reform, and [word indistinct] and dialogue are only empty talk that have no truth. This shows that like their predecessors they are only pursuing the policy of depending on outside forces, confrontation, and a splittist policy.

We will continue to observe South Korea's current ruling force, which is aggravating the country's situation by taking a confrontational attitude in our will and efforts to resolve the nation's important matter through negotiations.

If matters take place that run counter to our nation's interest in the future on the Korean peninsula, the South side will be wholly responsible for it.

South Position on Talks 'Unjust'

SK2606140693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Commentary by station commentator Yun Pyong-son: "Act of Denying Dialogue Itself"]

[Text] One month has passed since we made the proposal for the mutual exchange of special envoys in order to discuss the issue of meetings of the top leaders [choegowikup] of the North and the South and impending problems including the nuclear issue.

We explained the deep significance of our side's proposal, which enjoyed active support and was welcomed by people at home and abroad, in an effort to realize the exchange and visit of special envoys. We also called attention of the South side in order to make it aware of its negative attitude and assertions. By showing patience and magnanimity, we made every possible effort.

One may keenly realize how sincerely and earnestly we tried in the past from the single fact that we sent letters and telephone messages to the South side on six occasions during one month.

In fact, the efforts we made this time are indeed unprecedented in the nearly 50-year-long North-South relations that have existed since the nation was divided.

However, in spite of our persistent and sincere efforts, our epoch-making proposal for the exchange of special envoys has not been realized. This is entirely because of the unjust attitude of the South Korean authorities.

As is well known, from the beginning, the South Korean authorities wanted to include a contact between working-level delegates of North-South high-level talks in our proposal for the exchange of special envoys. Moreover, the South Korean side wanted to include the nuclear issue as an agenda item for discussing working-level procedures for the exchange of special envoys. Thus it laid artificial obstacles. In a telephone message on 22 June, the South side insisted on a so-called basic discussion [kichojok hyobui] of the nuclear issue, and clearly expressed its position of totally refusing our proposal for the exchange of special envoys.

As for contacts between working-level delegates proposed by the South side, it means lower-level officials [najunkup] will sit face to face, who have no authority or right to draw conclusions. They merely repeat arguments and waste time. The South side's unjust nature has been fully exposed.

Past lessons of dialogue failing to bring deserved fruition show that the important problems related to the nation's vital interests can be successfully resolved only through discussions between responsible high-level officials [kowikupdul] of both sides and through decisions of the top leaders [choegowikup].

However, the South side merely insisted on unjust assertions. This is not a position for truly resolving problems.

The same goes with the nuclear matter with which the South side took issue.

The nuclear issue was brought about when foreign nuclear weapons were brought into South Korea. The nuclear issue became graver when the nuclear threat was imposed upon us by the outside.

We have repeatedly made clear that we have neither the intention and capability nor the need to produce nuclear weapons. The South Korean authorities, however, have not believed the statements of fellow countrymen who do not produce nuclear weapons. They have asked us to discuss a false fact fabricated by an outside force while rejecting our proposal. This is nothing but virtually rejecting our proposal on exchanging special envoys by finding fault with it.

In addition, the South side's acts which reject North-South dialogue were revealed in the following facts: The highest person in authority was encouraging confrontation and zeal for war when he said that he cannot shake hands with the other party which possesses nuclear weapons. He instructed the puppet forces to take a posture for complete combat readiness. He had the puppet forces conduct the provocative Ulchi-93 war exercise and he made the commotion of arresting patriotic students who had a telephone conversation with North's students. He stubbornly stated that he would not abolish the National Security Law, the vicious, fascist antireunification law.

The South side took the road of further worsening North-South relations by rejecting our proposal on exchanging special envoys, which would lead to detente, peace, and reunification. Their act reveals that they have no intention to be reconciled and united with fellow countrymen. This generates the boiling wrath of the whole nation. This also proves that all the South authorities' remarks on dialogue and reunion are lies.

While the South Korean authorities are talking about peace and reunification, they are meeting with other nations to resolve the nuclear issue through dialogue and negotiation. How can they resolve the nuclear and reunification issues while they even reject high-level meetings between fellow countrymen?

The South Korean authorities clearly reject dialogue itself and are pursuing the policy of relying on outside forces, confrontation, divisionism just as their predecessors did.

The South side's rejection of our proposal on exchanging special envoys is an antinational criminal one which will drive the nation into ruin. This can never be tolerated.

The South Korean authorities should behave reasonably, depart from a mistaken concept of confrontation, and have a correct dialogue stance.

KCNA Criticizes Kim Yong-sam on BBC Interview

SK2706082893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0814 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Pyongyang, June 27 (KCNA)—The South Korean ruler said that the North was "concentrating its national resources on preparations for war" and that they should prepare for the "worst" and, at the same time, the "Defence Ministry" took a measure for "keeping combat readiness, crying that the North is "strengthening the military posture with the purpose of completing the war preparations" till July 27 to come, according to a South Korean "CBS" [Christian Broadcasting System] report. This is an unpardonable challenge to us who are making all sincere efforts to guarantee a durable peace and security on the Korean peninsula and to achieve the peaceful reunification of the country; it is an anti-DPRK campaign.

The utterances of the South Korean authorities picking a quarrel with us are an unfounded false propaganda. Outcrying that "all efforts should be directed to establishing military preparedness", the South Korean ruler and military bosses rejected all our sincerity and magnanimity for dialogue and reunification and are now staging large scale "93 Ulchi" war manoeuvres against the North in the whole territory of South Korea.

Shameless are the remarks of the South Korean authorities challenging the North, sending up powder-smoke.

The unreasonable moves of the South Korean authorities are aimed to justify their anti-national criminal acts against dialogue, peace and reunification and to mislead the public opinion to stifle our Republic.

The South Korean authorities must give up the anachronistic moves for confrontation at once and wake up from a fantastic dream.

NODONG SINMUN Comments on Remarks

SK2806092993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0021 GMT 28 Jun 93

[NODONG SINMUN 28 June commentary: "Grumbling by a Man Who Feels Uneasy"]

[Text] It is known that the DPRK and United States of America held government-level talks from 2 through 11 of June. As a result, a joint statement on mutual respect and non-interference was adopted at the talks. This is an event of historic significance in stabilizing the situation on the Korean peninsula.

All the fellow countrymen and peace-loving people of the world who long for peace in Korea and its reunification invariably hope that the DPRK and the United States will continue sincere dialogue on an equal and unprejudiced basis in conformity with the principles that the two countries declared at home and abroad in their statement. They also hope that such dialogue would bring positive results in ending the antagonistic relations, which lasted 40-odd years, and in fundamentally resolving the issues concerning detente, including the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula.

However, the present South Korean rulers are much disgruntled with this. The South Korean ruler, in an interview with BBC [British Broadcasting Corporation] Television of the United Kingdom on 25 June, expressed his dissatisfaction with the announcement of the DPRK-U.S. joint statement to the United States and babbled that the United States should not make further concessions to the DPRK. When the DPRK-U.S. joint statement was announced, a South Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman issued an official statement welcoming the DPRK-U.S. joint statement as a significant advance in resolving the nuclear issue. Nevertheless, this time, the South Korean ruler showed his uneasiness and expressed strong dissatisfaction over the DPRK-U.S. joint statement. This shows how uneasy and embarrassed he is.

The South Korean authorities have no reason to feel dissatisfied with the DPRK-U.S. joint statement. As mentioned in the joint statement, we and the United States assured that the two sides oppose the use of force, including nuclear weapons, and the threat of force; guarantee the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and peace and security there; respect each other's sovereignty and do not interfere in each other's internal affairs; and support the peaceful reunification of Korea. Based on this principle, we and the United States agreed to continue dialogue on an equal and unprejudiced basis.

This provided a basis in putting an end to hostile relations between the DPRK and the United States, and resolving the root of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula. There is no doubt that this will contribute to peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world as well as in realizing denuclearization on the Korean peninsula.

The agreed upon contents between the United States and us are only good matters from the national point of view. There is not even one paragraph or clause that is detrimental. Nevertheless, the South Korean rulers are not pleased with this and are openly expressing dissatisfaction. This is because their wrong expectation went amiss, which was for the United States to put pressure on us, their fellow countrymen, by instigating the international community.

After the announcement of the DPRK-U.S. joint statement, words and actions by the South Korean rulers have become all the more harsh. They are instilling confrontation by finding fault with us by babbling that the North is concentrating its national strength to prepare for a war. This stems from the ill-natured intention to mislead the public opinion to put pressure and stifle [apsal] our Republic by clouding our image at any cost before the successive DPRK-U.S. talks.

If the South Korean authorities have even a small amount of national conscience, how can they be so impatient as to harm fellow countrymen? The acts by the South Korean authorities show that they are not able to free themselves from flunkeyism and depending on outside forces. This can be seen only as an antinational act to harm the fellow countrymen by borrowing the strength of outside forces.

If the South Korean authorities are not able to throw away that kind of thinking and continue to move toward confrontation with fellow countrymen, the results will by no means be good to them. Furthermore, the future road of the civilian regime will also be unsmooth.

The South Korean ruler said that in the DPRK-U.S. talks, the United States made concessions on North Korea and North Korea obtained actual advantage. The South Korean rulers who only followed the United States during the past 40 years would not even have imagined such a result.

Reality shows that the nation's dignity and interest can be defended only when standing from an independent position, and that if we follow outside forces it will only result in selling the nation. The South Korean authorities should learn a lesson from here without fail.

Further NODONG SINMUN Comments

SK2806044893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 28 Jun 93

["Rigmarole of Those Feeling Uneasy"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 28 (KCNA)—The South Korean chief executive, when he was interviewed by the British BBC Television on June 25, expressed discontent with the United States over the publication of a joint statement between it and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, saying that the United States "must make no additional concession" in its negotiations with the North.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN Monday says this revealed his uneasiness.

The points of the agreement between the DPRK and the U.S., the analyst says, are all very gratifying in view of peace and security in Asia and the world or from the national point of view. Not a point or a clause are harmful to them.

The South Korean rulers, however, openly expressed dissatisfaction, displeased with them. This is because their malicious expectation went amiss, their expectation that the U.S. would put pressure on us, their fellow countrymen, by instigating the international community.

After the publication of the DPRK-USA joint statement they have become more coarse in their words and deeds and are inciting confrontation, alleging that "the North is concentrating the national power on war preparations." This is motivated by their malicious intention to orient public opinion to put pressure on the DPRK and stifle it by marring its image at any cost before the sequent talks between the DPRK and the U.S.

The acts of the South Korean authorities show that they have not yet shaken themselves free from flunkeyism and dependence on outside forces. They cannot be regarded otherwise but an anti-national acts to do harm to the fellow countrymen with the help of outside forces. They are lifting the rock only to drop it on their own feet. Should the South Korean authorities continue to seek confrontation with fellow countrymen, failing to abandon such mode of thinking, the results will never be good to them and the future of the "civilian government" will be gloomy.

Daily Urges Disbanding South's Security Board

SK2606112293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 26 Jun 93

["Anti-national Plots of "SPB (Security Planning Board)" Must Be Checked"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 26 (KCNA)—It is self-contradictory for the South Korean authorities to invigorate the insidious activities of the "Security Planning Board [SPB]," a leftover of the preceding dictatorial "regimes", while vowing to break with them, declares NODONG SINMUN today.

In an article entitled "anti-national plots of 'SPB' must be checked" the author says:

The "SPB" patronized by the present ruling forces of South Korea is overtly bringing a political situation of fascist repression. This is a very harmful and ill-boding move in regard to the democratic development of South Korean society, improvement of North-South relations and national reunification.

The most heinous of the crimes of the "SPB" is that it has run about with blood-shot eyes to suppress and stifle the pro-reunification democratic forces.

The "SPB" fabricated "results of investigation" into the "whole picture of Chondaehyop" in July 1991 on the threshold of the second pan-national rally and the grand reunification festival of youth and students. Last year, it trumped up the "case of the Workers' Party of Korea in South Korea" in a bid to destroy the patriotic pro-reunification democratic forces.

The "SPB" wormed its way even into socio-political life and did all sorts of malpractices and conducted a vicious political surveillance for the security of the dictatorial forces and the maintenance of the system.

Another crime of the "SPB" is that it has stood in the way of peace and peaceful reunification of the country, the desire of the whole nation.

The "Sixth Republic" suspended the implementation of the inter-Korean agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization, froze all dialogues between North and South with military maneuvers against the North and staged a hysteric campaign of anti-communist confrontation and war over the "nuclear problem" of the North. All these criminal acts are unthinkable apart from the "SPB."

The "SPB" gangsters are stretching their hands of interference to all spheres of South Korean society including politics, the economy, military affairs and culture and working hard to hold an exclusive sway over the relations with the North and the reunification problem.

As long as the "SPB," a den of fascism, murder and intelligence politics, is left intact, the democratization of South Korean society and the reunification of the country cannot be achieved nor can the South Korean people be freed from today's miserable lot.

If the South Korean authorities are truly willing to enforce "civilian politics" and "reforms" they must disband the "SPB" before it is too late.

Daily Urges Removal of South's Security Law

SK2706093893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0839 GMT 27 Jun 93

["NODONG SINMUN Calls for Removing Institutional Obstacle From National Reunification"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 27 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today stresses that the South Korean authorities should scrap the "National Security Law" [NSL], big obstacle in the way of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country.

The "NSL", an anti-reunification fascist law, fosters misunderstanding and distrust within the nation and causes their deterioration, says the paper in a signed article.

It goes on:

The "NSL" in South Korea defines the northern half of Korea and fellow countrymen who live there as "enemy". In other words, it prescribes the northern half of Korea as an "anti-state region", all the political parties, lower bodies and organisations in the northern half of Korea as "anti-state organisations", and the whole people in the North as "members of anti-state organisations". Worse still, it stipulates even the standard of punishment on people in the northern half of Korea.

The "NSL" also gravely obstructs national reconciliation and unity. It can be seen, first of all, in blocking free visit, contact and dialogue between the North and the South.

The "National Security Law" incriminates South Korean people who visit the North on "charge of smuggle and escape", those who meet men from the North on "charge of assembly", those who agree at contact or sympathize with the opinion of men from the North on "charge of praise, encouragement and sympathy", those who write a letter or telephone on "charge of telecommunication", and those who offer convenience on "charge of volunteering convenience". To crack down on the righteous struggle of the South Korean people who are advancing towards reunification with the North by envoking the "NSL" is another aspect of hampering national reconciliation and unity.

As long as such anti-reunification weapon, the anti-communist fascist law remains intact, national concord and unity and the reunification of the country cannot be achieved.

If the present ruling forces of South Korea have a true intention to "liquidate the unfortunate past" and make a "reform", they should abolish the "National Security Law", an institutional obstacle to national reunification, and show their practical will to join in the trend of the great unity of the whole nation.

KCNA Views South Plan To Purchase U.S. Missiles

SK2706090693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0822 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Pyongyang, June 27 (KCNA)—The U.S. Defence Department announced that South Korea planned to purchase 300 air to air missiles from the United States, according to a radio report from Seoul on June 26.

South Korea is going to purchase 34 million dollars worth of these missiles to "intensify combat power", said the U.S. Defence Department.

The crime of the South Korean rulers who are stepping up arms buildup, going against the trend of the times toward peace and reunification on the Korean peninsula shows that they have not given up their wild ambition for invading the North.

SKNDF Denounces Ulchi-93 Military Exercise

SK2806051693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0413 GMT 28 Jun 93

["'Hanminjon' Spokesman Slams 'Ulchi-93' Drill"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 28 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] published a statement on June 25 denouncing the "Ulchi-93" military exercise launched by the South Korean authorities as a grave challenge to peace on the Korean peninsula and to the desire of the Korean nation for peaceful reunification, according to a report of radio Voice of National Salvation from Seoul.

The statement says:

The present ruling forces are staging hysteric war gambles while internally reviving the security-oriented fascist rule of the "Sixth Republic", thus laying bare the real picture of their much advertised "reforms".

Hard facts clearly show the present "regime" is a separatist fascist "civilian government" which has no will for democracy but only seeks confrontation with the North, under the "civilian" cloak.

The ulterior intention of the present rulers in staging the "Ulchi-93" is to cool the growing ardor of the people for peaceful reunification with the confrontation concept against the North and to save themselves from their defensive position internally and externally with increased tensions, the statement says.

It strongly urges Kim Yong-sam "government" to take the road of great national unity, abandoning the traitorous policy of confrontation with the North.

Paper Urges Kim Chong-pil Purge From Politics

SK2606051893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0451 GMT 26 Jun 93

["Kim Chong-pil Must Be Removed: NODONG SINMUN"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 26 (KCNA)—If the present "regime" of South Korea truly want to pursue "civilian government" and "reform," such baron of "yusin" as Kim Chong-pil and its remnants and the anti-national fascists including those of the "fifth and sixth republics" must be removed immediately first of all as targets of reform, says NODONG SINMUN Friday in a by-lined article titled "baron of 'yusin' must be removed."

The article roundly exposes the crimes of Kim Chong-pil.

He played a main role in the treacherous "May 16 coup." He, with the traitor Pak Chong-hui, suppressed the April 19 popular resistance by force of arms under the manipulation of the U.S. imperialists and opened the scene of the pro-U.S. military fascist rule.

He is a baron of "yusin" who committed indelible crimes under the "yusin" dictatorship which made itself infamous with fascism, treachery, confrontation and divisive moves.

He, husband of a nephew [as received] of Pak Chong-hui the traitor, played a principal role in suppressing at the point of bayonet the people who opposed the military fascist dictatorship and called for the democratization of society and building up the system of a long-term office of the dictator. He, taking the posts of "chairman" and "president" of the "Democratic Republican Party" and "prime minister," perpetrated black crimes against the nation, resorting to fascism, treachery and divisive and belligerent moves.

He, No. 2 man of the dictatorial "yusin regime", not only trampled upon the democratic rights and freedom of the people with bayonets and turned South Korea into the worst graveyard of human rights in the world but also worked with extra zeal for "two Koreas" for permanent division. This was a treason never to be condoned.

The day after the historical July 4 joint statement was made public, he cried it down, dismissing it as a mere "sheet of paper" and took the lead in fostering North-South confrontation and war fever. He threatened the people, declaring that those "challenging the yusin system" would be dealt with with a strong arm.

It was again Kim Chong-pil who brought "to a success" the treacherous "talks" between South Korea and Japan whereby to sell off national interests and fabricated South Korea-Japan "agreement". Kim Chong-pil recently made utterances embellishing the "May 16 coup" and defending the crimes of the "Fifth and Sixth Republics." This was motivated by his sinister intention to dull the edge of the attack of the angry people on himself, a leading character of the "coup" and baron of "yusin". This was also underlain by an insidious scheme to revive the "yusin" military fascist rule in the future, going against the aspiration of the people.

Such a person has become the No. 2 man of the ruling party which is advocating "civilian government," and lets out indiscreet outbursts. This is a mockery of history and the people.

It is only too natural that the South Korean people are demanding his resignation.

The present "regime" of South Korea must lend an ear to the voices of the people and remove Kim Chong-pil from the political scene as demanded by them.

Hanminjon Denounces ROK 'Crackdown' on Students

SK2506234493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1515 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Pyongyang, June 25 (KCNA)—The youth and student department of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) on June 19 published a manifesto headlined "To the One Million Students" in connection with the wild crackdown of the South Korean authorities on the "Hanchongnyon" organisation, according to radio Voice of National Salvation from Seoul.

The manifesto says that the present "regime's" suppression of "Hanchongnyon" and the national reunification committee, its affiliated organisation, is an intentional and premeditated repressive operation to stifle the student movement, the vanguard of the national democratic movement, and is an offspring of the criminal plot to find in a security8oriented political situation a way out of a crisis of their "reform" policy which has reached the limit.

It calls upon the students who are merciless to injustice and daring in justice to determinedly turn out in a struggle to repulse the suppressive offensive of the rpresent "regime" which is trying to crush "Hanchongnyon" by branding it as a "pro-communist organisation benefiting the enemy", and defend its organization.

"The one million students should clearly define the root cause of the outbreak of the incident and the responsibility of the authorities and, through an active anti-fascist turnout, decisively smash the sinister intrigue of the present 'regime' to remove the national democratic forces and the scheme of the right-wing forces of vested rights including the 'security planning board' which are trying to bring back a security-oriented political situation, raising their heads again," urges the manifesto.

It declares that the struggle for a probe into the truth behind the Kwangju incident, the inaugural ceremony of "Hanchongnyon" and the struggle for the realization of the June 12 North-South student talks waged by students were grand actions which deserved praises by all the people and the nation, not a "crime".

It calls upon the one million students who treasure justice to unite around "Hanchongnyon" as one, defend its internal organisation by their own efforts, achieve the autonomy of campus, realize North-South student talks and open the way of independence, democracy and reunification.

Reunification Group Denounces ROK's 'Folly'

SK2606051293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Pyongyang, June 26 (KCNA)—The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland Friday published a statement denouncing the indiscreet bellicose folly of the South Korean authorities.

The statement says:

The South Korean chief executive who had shifted the responsibility for the resumption of the "Team Spirit" joint manoeuvres this year to his predecessor showed up on the forefront of the Military Demarcation Line recently and called for the "maintenance of full combat readiness" under the pretext of "provocation of the North" and even launched on June 21 a large-scale war exercise codenamed "Ulji-93" covering the whole area of South Korea which is directed against the North.

He said "any ally cannot be better than the nation" and proposed to have a North-South summit any time "from the original point of being the fellow countrymen." Taking note of these words pleasing our ears which had not been heard from his predecessors, we expected that he would be our true companion on the road to the reunification of the country.

Today when more than 100 days have elapsed since he took office, however, the South Korean chief executive is fostering confrontation and increasing tensions between the North and the South, uttering words quite different from what he had said only yesterday and reversing his own declarations. He has become all the more coarse in his words and deeds after the publication of a joint statement between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States of America, probably feeling uneasy and irritated.

He says the U.S. Forces must stay in South Korea and the "National Security Law" must be left intact to cope with the North and even states that he would not "shake hands" with us. True to his words, the South Korean authorities turned down the proposal of the North side's premier for the exchange of special envoys and, as a result, it has become difficult to have North-South dialogue which once seemed possible.

Facts indicate that "civilian politics" and "reforms" in South Korea are gradually rolling back to the old-fashioned frame of repressive rule and "conservatism," blind subservience to outside forces and separatism are again holding sway, elbowing out the national idea, and, with provocative war clamor added to this, the policies of dependence and fascism, division and war are getting all the more undisguised.

Advancing side by side with the entire fellow countrymen toward reunification in the '90s, we express deep concern over the unstable prospect of the present "government" of South Korea which is revealing its vulnerability, caught in self-contradiction already in the initial period of its office. And we solemnly warn against the improper acts of the South Korean authorities who are inciting confrontation and division within the nation and following the anti-dialogue, anti-peace and anti-reunification road, deceiving and fooling the people.

The keypoint in the criminal acts of the South Korean authorities today is that they are trying to justify all their anti-dialogue, anti-peace and anti-reunification acts with the "nuclear problem of the North."

The socalled "nuclear problem of the North" is a fiction invented by international reactionaries to stifle our republic, the bastion of socialism; it is a product of their hostile policy toward our republic.

This notwithstanding, the South Korean authorities are acting a shock force in the nuclear clamour, spreading the foreign-invented fiction, not trusting the fellow countrymen's statement that they have no intention to manufacture any nuclear weapons. This goes to prove that they are nothing but a servant and stooge of nuclear powers who pull the nuclear chariot.

Should the South Korean authorities keep the North-South relations in a state of acute confrontation, a state of freeze, on account of the "North's nuclear problem" about which they do not know well, as instructed by others, it will only invite outside forces to fish in troubled waters while imposing disasters of a new nuclear war upon our nation; it will not bring anything good to the South Korean authorities, too.

The South Korean authorities should be mindful that treachery and fascism, division and war pursued by them are a road to destruction and disgrace followed by their predecessors and they should learn a proper lesson from the disgraceful end of the successive rulers who betrayed the nation, after becoming henchmen of outside forces under the slogan of "anti-communism".

They should not do such foolish acts as abandoning their dignity and authority to please outside forces, nor mock the nation, persistently engaging themselves in perfidy and metamorphosis with crucial matters of the nation before them, nor dig their own grave, following in the footsteps of the "fifth and sixth republics". If they represent a non-transparent, unstable and weak "regime" like their predecessors, an entity bound in bondage to outside forces, without real power, untrustworthy partner, who will consider them to be a companion of reunification, a partner of dialogue and shake hands with them?

If the nation is to be saved from the crisis of disaster and the cause of the national reunification is to be accomplished in the '90s at any cost, the South Korean authorities should awaken themselves and make a policy swithchover from the stand of national independence and take a correct stance foward dialogue in keeping with the spirit of the great unity of the nation.

Daily Denounces Japan for 'Decrying' U.S. Talks

SK2806045993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0418 GMT 28 Jun 93

["Why Is Japan Discontented?"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 28 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today raps the mischievous acts of the Japanese authorities in decrying the DPRK-U.S. talks, grumbling that it is "a failure of Western diplomacy" and "content of the DPRK-USA joint statement is ambiguous." This proves that they do not want peace and negotiation but seek confrontation and maintenance of the Cold War system, the analyst notes, and continues:

If the danger of war is removed from Northeast Asia including the Korean peninsula, this would not be bad but be good to Japan, too. Why are the Japanese authorities alone jealous of the thing which the world hail?

The Japanese reactionary quarters have obstructed overtly and covertly the progress of the DPRK-U.S. talks in order to continue to promote the conversion of Japan into a military power and its nuclear armament. To this end, they spread the unfounded rumours that "North Korea may send elite forces to the South" and "it may commit a wanton action of aggression," on the threshold of the DPRK-U.S. talks. Their slanders fully reveal their awkward and perplexed position in face of the progress of the DPRK-U.S. talks.

If the Japanese authorities continue casting a chill over the fundamental settlement of the nuclear problem of the Korean peninsula and the improvement of the DPRK-U.S. relations, going against the trend of the times, they will only face international isolation and disgrace.

KCNA Reviews 28 Jun NODONG SINMUN

SK2806054293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Pyongyang, June 28 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a message of greetings sent by the great leader President Kim Il-song to the 29th assembly of the heads of state and government of the Organization of African Unity.

Printed in the daily is a message to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il from Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on the month of solidarity with the Korean people.

The daily rounds up words of South Korean people highly praising President Kim Il-song who put forward the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation.

It informs the readers of a new revolutionary episode about the twin rainbow hung over the sky above the Chong-il peak of the Mt. Paektu secret camp of Korea at dawn on June 10.

It comes out with an editorial headlined "Let the Young People Be Young Vanguard Defending the Party at the Cost of Their Lives" and an article captioned "Our Party Is an Invincible Revolutionary Party With Most Solid Organizational and Ideological Foundation".

The daily reports about the fulfilment of the assignments for the first half of the year in different fields of the national economy and the construction of 30,000 flats which is progressing apace in the capital.

It runs commentaries denouncing the South Korean and Japanese authorities for expressing dissatisfaction with the joint statement adopted at the DPRK-U.S. talks.

According to the daily, South Korean public called for a probe into the truth behind the December 12 incident in 1979 and punishment of the principal culprits and the journalists association of South Korea condemned the assault on reporters by prosecution.

It carries an article exposing irregularities and corruption surrounding university entrance examinations in South Korea.

The daily lays bare the dependence and bankruptcy of South Korean economy seen through the exchange rate of the South Korean and Japanese currency.

Echoed in the daily are voices of foreign party leaders praising the Korean-style socialism.

The daily gives accounts of functions held in different countries on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the war.

International news columns of the daily include reports that a new president was elected in Yugoslavia, the Tanzanian president called for a stop to the aid to the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] and the Tunisian president called for a pressure on Israel.

An article of the daily says that today the environmental pollution by nuclear waste is being discussed in the international arena as a grave problem.

KCNA Reports 26 Jun Pyongyang Press

SK2606061593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0518 GMT 26 Jun 93

["Press review"]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 26 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today says that foreign media reported "Non-aligned information services must contribute to the people's cause of independence", a speech of the great leader President Kim Il-song, and that the Wandan Committee for the study of the chuche idea released a statement supporting the speech.

The paper gives an account of a seminar on "On the fundamentals of revolutionary party building", a work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, which was held in Tanzania.

An article of the paper says that President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il led the Ponghwa Cooperative Farm in Kaechon, South Pyongan Province, to continue to set the pace in the many-sided development of the rural economy.

MINJU CHOSON deals with the loving care shown by Comrade Kim Chong-il to Veterans of the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum.

Pakistani and Madagascan papers carried articles highly praising Comrade Kim Chong-il, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, as a military genius, says NODONG SINMUN.

The press informs the readers of the inauguration of the Iquitos, Peru, Society for the Study of the Chuche Idea.

Econews of the press includes reports about the fulfilment of the assignments for the first half of the year in various domains of the national economy.

Appearing in NODONG SINMUN are a statement published by Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK, upon the failure of the DPRK's proposal for the exchange of presidential envoys between the North and the South owing to the unwarrantable attitude of the South side in spite of the patient efforts of the DPRK and a statement of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland denouncing the crimes of the South Korean authorities in answering the proposal for the exchange of presidential envoys with a military game against the fellow countrymen.

According to the paper, the DPRK ambassador paid a farewell call on the Ghanaian president.

Included in the South Korean news columns of the press is the report that the opposition democratic party demanded the resignation of 19 criminals including Kim Chong-pil from their official posts.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an article exposing the anti- national plots of the "Security Planning Board" of South Korea and MINJU CHOSON with a commentary denouncing the anti-popular labour policy and low-wage policy of the South Korean authorities.

NODONG SINMUN conveys words of the general secretary of the October 8 Revolutionary Movement of Brazil stressing that the singlehearted unity of the leader, the party and the masses is the true look of Korea, and reports that Afghan and Tanzanian papers carried articles supporting the Korean people's cause of national reunification and foreign media ran articles introducing Yi In-mo.

Given in the paper is an account of a banquet given in Tokyo in celebration of the publication of "collection of materials of Mt. Paektu" and the first issue of "news of Pyongyang" and the establishment of the Japan-Korea friendship data centre.

The press introduces the congolese situation which has become complicated after two rounds of parliamentary elections.

It is reported in NODONG SINMUN that talks were held between delegations of China and some countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and functions took place in CIS countries on the 52nd anniversary of the start of the great patriotic war.

International news of the paper includes reports that the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation organisation criticized the attempt of Israel to exclude the East Quds issue from the agenda of the Mid-East peace conference and the Angolan Prime Minister elaborated on the domestic problems.

The press observes the 33rd anniversary of the independence of Madagascar.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article exposing the crimes of the Japanese imperialists in reducing Korean women to sex slaves for the "imperial army" during the second world war.

South Korea

DPRK Envoy: Pyongyang Not To Return to NPT

SK2706003293 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2302 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] With the approach of the second-stage U.S.-North Korean high-level talks, which are likely to be held early next month, North Korean Ambassador to Pakistan Choe Su-il said that North Korea would not join the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] again [pukhanun haekhwaksan kumji choyage tasi kaiphajinun anulkosirago]. It therefore attracts attention.

A Chinese Government-controlled Beijing radio broadcast reported yesterday: In his 24 June news conference in Islamabad, Choe Su-il criticized that the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] has taken double positions toward North Korea by constantly pressuring it, while overlooking some other countries' nuclear weapons development. He also said that North Korea would not join the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty again as long as it has withdrawn from it.

The Beijing radio broadcast reported: Choe Su-kil said that the IAEA's request for inspection of military facilities [kunsa sisol] in North Korea is not fair. He also asserted that North Korea cannot accept the IAEA's such request.

DPRK Said To Criticize Rabin's Remarks on Golan

SK2706014493 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Jun 93 p 2

[Text] Despite the planned talks between Jerusalem and Pyongyang, North Korea is intensifying tirades against Israel instead of softening attitudes toward the Middle East nation.

Pyongyang's propaganda machines Wednesday criticized Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin for his recent remarks. Rabin was reported to have said at the Knesset recently that Israel would seek peace with Syria but cannot withdraw from the strategic Golan Heights. North Korean media called the remarks as a mere "sophistry," which only revealed the aggressiveness of Israel's foreign policy.

The KCBS [Korean Christian Broadcasting System] said, quoting Syrian radio news reports, that there will be no peace in the Middle East without Israel's withdrawal from the Golan Heights and the implementation of a U.N. Security Council resolution concerning the issue.

DPRK Premier: N-S Envoy Exchange Aborted

SK2606020993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0148 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 26 (YONHAP)—North Korea formally announced Saturday that the exchange of special envoys it had proposed with South Korea had failed to take place, which suggests that it won't make any further offers for inter-Korean contacts. "We regret the failure of the exchange of special envoys," Administration Council Premier Kang Son-san said in a statement carried by the (North) Korean Central Broadcasting Station at 7:10 a.m. and monitored here.

"The exchange of the envoys could not be realized because of the South's undue attitude despite our side's month-long patient efforts," it said. If something happened on the Korean peninsula to the detriment of the interests of "our people," the South should be held fully responsible for it, the statement said.

"In their June 22 telephone message, the South again insisted on a meeting of working-level officials to make a basic discussion of the nuclear issue, expressing their total rejection of our proposal for the exchange of envoys," he said. Kang criticized that President Kim Yong-sam for saying that "I cannot shake hands with a party that has nuclear weapons" during a news conference to mark his 100th day in office.

It was an "act of rejecting the proposed exchange of envoys," Kang said. He labelled the Ulchi command post exercise now underway in the South "an act of producing a sword to the same people trying to shake hands and denying the dialogue itself." "We will watch the attitude of those in power in the South who respond with a confrontational posture to our determination and efforts to resolve grave national issues through negotiations and who thereby intensify the (tense) situation on the Korean peninsula," he said.

Spokesman: Seoul 'Regrets' Decision

SK2606070693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0656 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 26 (YONHAP)—Seoul "regrets" North Korea's announcement that inter-Korean exchange of presidential envoys is aborted but will keep its door open for dialogue, government spokesman O In-hwan said Saturday. "It's regrettable that North Korea refused our proposal for contact between working-level representatives, that it criticized our side and took action that virtually cut off inter-Korean dialogue," said O in a statement.

The statement was in reaction to North Korean Premier Kang Song-san's announcement that Pyongyang's proposal for envoy exchange had failed, indicating North Korea will not make any more offers for inter-Korean talks. "We regret the failure of the exchange of special envoys," Kang declared in a statement carried by the (North) Korean central broadcasting station at 7:10 a.m. and monitored here.

"The exchange of the envoys could not be realized because of the South's undue attitude despite our side's month-long patient efforts," it said. If something happened on the Korean peninsula to the detriment of the interests of "our people," the South should be held fully responsible for it, the statement said.

The Seoul Government turned the blame, warning that "North Korea will not be able to rid of its responsibility for the results brought on by its attempts to avoid resolution to the nuclear problem." "Our government will keep the door open for dialogue on peaceful resolution to the nuclear problem," said O, "We urge North Korea to make a sincere change of mind matching our own efforts." Seoul has already made a series of concessions on the format and agenda to the inter-Korean contact, going as far as to say it is willing to go ahead with the envoy exchange, he said.

Minister: No Proposal Until Nuclear Pact

SK2706031793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0309 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 27 (YONHAP)—South Korea will not propose inter-Korean dialogue any more if there is no breakthrough in the nuclear problem at the North Korea-U.S. high-level talks slated for July, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said Sunday. "The government will not make proposals to Pyongyang any more as the North withdrew an earlier proposal for an exchange of special presidential envoys from Seoul and Pyongyang," said Han.

The minister also said that the South Korean Government plans to strengthen cooperative system with international community for the U.N. Security Council to begin additional sanction against Pyongyang as the dialogue will be meaningless when Pyongyang pays attention to relation with the United States only and refuses to make efforts to settle the nuclear problem. "The North Korea-U.S. high-level talks in next month will focus on the North's acceptance of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspection," he expected. "Washington will not persuade North Korea to return to inter-Korean dialogue at the talks."

Meanwhile, the South proposed an exchange of special presidential envoys due to Chinese demand as well as Seoul's will to settle nuclear problem, a government source said. "Though China is expected to abstain in the additional U.N. resolution against North Korea, it assumes an attitude to perform its duty as a member if the council adopts the resolution," he said.

Seoul Urges Resolution of Nuclear Issue

SK2606235793 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2300 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Considering that North Korea, which announced the abortion of its proposal for an exchange of special envoys on 26 June, would not take part in the North-South dialogue for the time being, the government has decided to lead it to positively participate in resolving the nuclear issue in closer cooperation with the United States.

Accordingly, the government will strongly urge the United States to demand that it call upon North Korea to accept the International Atomic Energy Agency's special nuclear inspection at U.S.-North Korean high-level talks which are likely to be held early next month.

In particular, the government will positively consider making the UN Security Council impose sanctions on North Korea if it does not shows positive intention to resolve the nuclear issue. North Korea is using the U.S.-DPRK high-level talks and the North-South dialogue as a means of saving time for its nuclear development.

The government, however, will make all efforts to create a good atmosphere for participation by North Korea in the North-South dialogue under policy of the fact that the nuclear issue should be basically and peacefully resolved through North-South dialogue.

Regarding this, the government will hold a meeting of unification-related ministers early this week to formulate its response to the changing situation between the North and South and to seek plans for the efficient resolution of the North Korean nuclear issue in closer cooperation with the United States.

Official: Dialogues To Aid 'Transparency'

SK2806082693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0743 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 28 (YONHAP)—Unification Minister Han Wan-sang said on Monday that having Seoul-Pyongyang dialogue at the same time as Washington-Pyongyang dialogue would help guarantee North Korea's nuclear transparency. "I think it is desirable that inter-Korean dialogue restart at an early date," Han told reporters. "If the next high-level talks between Washington and Pyongyang make substantial progress, it will give momentum for restarting inter-Korean talks.

"The government will make efforts in various ways to bring substantial progress," he said. Asked what "substantial progress" meant, Han said: "It is North Korea's clear consent to the International Atomic Energy Agency special inspections." He said, "the government will take comprehensive measures to break at an early date the stalemate in relations between Seoul and Pyongyang caused by North Korea's unilateral rejection of dialogue."

Minister: Basis Provided for Nuclear Inspection

SK2606102193 Seoul YONHAP in English 1002 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 26 (YONHAP)—South Korea's biggest gain from the result of the first Washington-Pyongyang high-level talks was that it provided legal and systematic basis that would make North Korea unable to resist complying with international nuclear inspection, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said Saturday.

Speaking in a political science society at the Korea University, Han said he had confirmed in discussions with the U.N. Security Council and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that North Korea was in the position to face strong U.N. actions at any time if it did not agree to accept international inspection of its suspected nuclear facilities in the second-phase North Korea-U.S. talks.

"So far, all efforts have been exerted to keep North Korea in the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), but if it again uses the card of withdrawing from NPT, the international community has no further reasons to waste its energy to humor North Korea," Han said. After four marathon sessions with the United States, North Korea had reversed its annoucement to leave the global nuclear safeguards treaty on June 11, just a day before its decision was to take effect.

Answering to some criticism that Washington was too concessive in its first set of talks with Pyongyang, Han said the United States had just repeated the contents of the U.N. resolution in a symbolic move.

"I know some people are unhappy about the U.S.-North Korea meeting itself, but we also normalized ties with Moscow and Beijing who are North Korea's allies and have approved North Korea's improving ties with our friend countries since our peace proposals in 1988," he said. "I believe our two-side carrot and stick strategy to solve the North Korean nuclear problem was necessary and right," he stressed.

Seoul Examining Revision of North-South Policy

SK2806032893 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 28 Jun 93 p 2

[Text] The government believes that North Korea is using South-North dialogue as a strategy to avoid resolving the nuclear issue. Therefore, it was learned on 27 June that the government is actively thinking about revising its overall policy on South-North dialogue.

The government has reportedly decided to abandon its strategy of attempting to ease tensions by resuming South-North dialogue—tensions that were caused by the North's nuclear issue. Rather, it would oppose progress in U.S.-DPRK political negotiations as well as South-North dialogue until North Korea changes its attitude toward the nuclear issue.

The government also decided that as long as North Korea is not willing to accept inspection of its nuclear facilities in Yongbyon that the North has not yet reported, it will not present any new proposals to the North.

Furthermore, the government has reportedly decided to abandon its passive strategy [sogukjokchollyak] under which it partially accepted North Korea's dialogue proposal but will formulate an independent strategy to take sanctions against [chechae] North Korea, including a limitation of indirect South-North trade through a third country.

A government official said: "The statement by Premier of the DPRK Administration Council Kang Song-san hints that the hard line is once again holding a superior position in North Korea. Therefore, we should conduct examinations to formulate various measures to pressure North Korea [tagakdoro taebukamnyokbangan-maryon]."

Seoul, U.S. Agree To Time Limit on DPRK Talks

SK2706142893 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 26 Jun 93 p 1

[By correspondent Kim Chan-ki]

[Excerpt] It has been learned that the Governments of the ROK and the United States have agreed to introduce "the concept of a time limit" to resolve North Korea's nuclear suspicions during the second round of U.S.-North Korean high-level talks to be resumed next month. The two governments also reached an agreement that if the talks prove unproductive after a certain period of time, they will not continue the talks but will consider taking additional steps including U.N. sanctions.

This policy-related agreement between the Governments of the ROK and the United States was made between Chong Chong-uk, senior presidential assistant for foreign affairs and security who recently visited the United States, and officials in charge of policies on foreign affairs and security in the United States.

This was revealed by a high-ranking government official on 25 June. This official said: The Governments of the ROK and the United States have determined that North Korea is using delay tactics in an attempt to obtain time for nuclear weapons development. Therefore, the two governments believe that prolonged U.S.-DPRK talks are not desirable when the United States and DPRK meet for a second time.

This official noted that he cannot reveal how long a time limit the ROK and the United States will set. However, another government official said that it will only be a few weeks. [passage omitted]

Seoul, U.S. To Discuss Nuclear Issue

SK2806025493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0117 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Washington, June 27 (YONHAP)—Visiting South Korean Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae will exchange a wide range of views on joint countermeasures against North Korea's nuclear development program with U.S. Defense Secretary Les Aspin on Monday [28 June] afternoon. They are also expected to discuss the Clinton administration's new international military strategy and security on the Korean peninsula.

The emphasis in the meeting will be to reaffirm the U.S. security commitment to Korea and the initiative to set up a multilateral security cooperative body in Northeast Asia. A Seoul-Washington summit is scheduled for July 10-11, and diplomatic and military sources here say that the two ministers will seek joint countermeasures against the North Korean nuclear issue because high-level talks between Washington and Pyongyang are scheduled for July.

They may share the recognition that Seoul and Washington should take more resolute action against Pyongyang if it rejects a recommendation to receive international inspection of its suspected nuclear facilities in Yongbyon in the talks. Kwon is expected to deliver a message from South Korean President Kim Yong-sam in his talks with U.S. leaders such as Aspin, Anthony Lake, the national security adviser, and members of the House and Senate Military Affairs Committees that says Washington should stop making concessions to Pyongyang on the nuclear issue.

The U.S. side is expected to say it hopes to resolve the issue at the earliest date possible. Kwon and Aspin are expected to exchange views on the idea of allowing North Korea to inspect U.S. military bases in the South simultaneously with inspections in the North in an effort to lead the communist country to accept nuclear inspections.

The sources say the two ministers will exchange views on the impact on security of the Korean peninsula of the change in U.S. military strategy as part of the Clinton administration's plan to cut defense spending. Kwon arrived here on Sunday.

Official: 'No Discord' With U.S. on Talks

SK2606012193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0050 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 26 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States are in complete agreement that future U.S. talks with North Korea should be firmly focused on the nuclear issue, a high-ranking South Korean Government official said Saturday. There was a strong possibility that North Korea might try to steer the U.S.-North Korean talks away from the nuclear issue and toward political negotiations, the official said, requesting anonymity.

Asked if South Korea was prepared to propose a tripartite meeting in case Washington and Pyongyang failed to make any progress, the official said that no such plans were being contemplated. The North Korean issue would be brought to the United Nations Security Council in that event, he said.

Follow-up measures including sanctions by the U.N. Security Council would have to be considered if the U.S.-North Korean talks proved to be unproductive, he said. The United States has confirmed that it is determined to stay with the nuclear issue in its talks with North Korea.

"(South Korea) isn't pessimistic about the outcome of the North Korean nuclear issue from a long-term point of view, but it is difficult to be optimistic about the U.S.-North Korean talks making immediate progress in the next round," he said. There would be an overall tune-up on the North Korean nuclear issue when U.S. President Bill Clinton visits South Korea next month, he said. In any event, there was no discord in relations between Seoul and Washington following U.S. talks with North Korea in New York, the official added.

Reaction to U.S. Bomb Attack on Baghdad Reported

Police Boost U.S. Embassy Security

SK2806023693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0221 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 28 (YONHAP)—Seoul city police bolstered security around the U.S., French and British Embassies and around U.S.-related compounds on Monday to prevent acts of retaliation to the U.S. attack on Baghdad by Iraqi nationals. Notices were sent to police stations to be on guard against Iraqis entering or leaving Korea and to be on the lookout for any suspicious activities by those in the country, officials said.

Ministry: U.S. Action 'Reasonable'

SK2806021293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0159 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 28 (YONHAP)—South Korea understands U.S. military action against Iraq as a reasonable countermeasure to state-sponsored terrorism against its nation and a firm resolve to prevent terrorism, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said in a reaction statement Monday.

"Related to the fact that our country was a victim to state-sponsored terrorism in the past, South Korea holds a firm and continuous position of opposing any form of such terrorism," the statement on the U.S. missile attack on Iraq said. "Terrorism is an act against civilization, against humanity."

The Korean Government would closely watch the progress of negotiations on the issue under way at the U.N. Security Council, it added.

Koreans in Baghdad 'Safe'

SK2806003493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0002 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 28 (YONHAP)—The Foreign Ministry said Monday [28 June] that 40 South Koreans living in Baghdad were reported to be safe in the wake of a U.S. missile attack on the intelligence headquarters in the Iraqi capital Sunday (KST) [Korea Standard Time]. Pyon Chong-kyu, director general of the ministry's Middle East bureau, said the South Korean Embassy in Jordan had established a contact with Acting Ambassador Kim Tong-ok in Baghdad and confirmed the safety of the South Koreans. The 40 Koreans, mostly employees of construction companies and their families, are living 40 to 50 kilometers from the target of the U.S. attack, Pyon said.

Official: Attack Reflects U.S. 'Will'

SK2706130093 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1220 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] A government official said that there are currently 16 Koreans in Iraq, including employees of Hyundai Construction Company and ROK Embassy guards. However, there were no reports of injuries.

This official noted that the U.S. attack reflects its will to strongly punish terrorist acts against heads of state. He said that we have also experienced terrorist acts against heads of state such as the North Korean terrorist Aungsan Tomb incident in Burma in 1983. Therefore, we will explicitly express our position [sentence as heard].

Seoul, Washington Reach Agreement in Beef Talks

SK2606072593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0713 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 26 (YONHAP)—Seoul and Washington finally narrowed their differences over their beef trade and initialled an agreement Saturday after five rounds of talks since last June. In their fifth extended negotiations that started Wednesday, the two countries agreed to set this year's import quota at 99,000 tons and increase the volume 7 percent annually until 1995.

They decided to extend the Simultaneous Buy and Sell System (SBS) to supermarkets from October next year. But Seoul officials cautiously observed that the two countries had come to an agreement in previous talks in April, but failed to put it into writing because of last-minute differences.

They said they could only be sure of a settlement on seeing the agreement signed and sealed. Under the agreement, Korea would increase its imports to 105,900 tons next year and 113,300 tons in 1995.

The 1993 volume is some 33,000 tons, or 50 percent more than last year's 66,000 tons, which is 43.6 percent of Korea's beef consumption of 226,800 tons last year. Washington initially demanded that Korea import 120,000 tons of its beef this year and raise the quota 10 percent annually to 132,000 tons in 1994 and 145,000 tons in 1995.

It softened its pressure on Korea's complete market opening from July 1997 and agreed to let the issue be decided in Uruguay Round negotiations. But it would take up the issue again in beef talks after June 1995 if no decision is made until then.

On the subject of the SBS system that allows direct trade between American beef exporters and Korean retailers, the two countries decided to permit access to supermarkets from October 1994. The SBS system is currently limited to the National Livestock Cooperatives Federation, Korea Cold Storage Co., and hotels.

Seoul refused to accept the U.S. demand of allowing other major retailers such as the beef processing association and restuarants to take part in direct tenders. To Washington's complaint that the imposition of 2-percent mark-up on some beef parts sold in hotels while claiming 70 percent to 100 percent as livestock funds on the rest were unfair, Korea agreed to expand cuts subject to the 2-percent surcharge.

U.S. Trade Official Urges Deregulation Plans

SK2606045593 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Jun 93 p 8

[Received via Chollian database]

[Text] Deputy U.S. Trade Representative [USTR] Charlene Barshefsky yesterday strongly urged Korea to accelerate its deregulation and liberalization plans and to be more active in resolving bilateral disputes promptly.

"I regret that Korea's offer in the Uruguay Round is inadequate with respect to the market access not only in agriculture but in industrial goods and services," she said in a news conference.

Barshefsky said that the United States, the European Community, Canada and Japan are in the process of outlining a large market access package to be announced at the Group of Seven summit in Tokyo next month. "It is hoped that such an outline would reinvigorate the GATT round and would put a country in a position to complete the round before Christmas of this year."

She added that the United States has high expectations with respect to Korea's market access in industrial goods and agriculture.

Barshefsky was a member of the U.S. delegation to the 11th Korea-U.S. Economic Consultation, Thursday in Seoul.

The two sides at the meeting agreed on the outline of their new "Dialogue for Economic Cooperation" (DEC), which will be launched by Korean President Kim Young-sam and U.S. President Clinton during their summit in Seoul July 10-11.

She said the Presidents' Economic Initiative (PEI) of former Korean President No Tae-u and U.S. President George Bush was "designed to facilitate economic activities between the United States and Korea, particularly with respect to the more technical aspects of doing business, for example, customs clearance procedures."

"But the DEC, which the economic sub-cabinets of each of our administrations will recommend to our respective presidents, is designed to build upon the PEI in two respects," she said.

The dialogue is designed to emphasize, first of all, Korea's importance to the United States and second of all, to build upon bilateral cooperative efforts to achieve the mutual goal of increasing trade and investment in the two countries, the U.S. trade official said.

She, however, said that it is critical to understand and appreciate that there remain many bilateral disputes.

"These disputes tend to linger too long with the effect that they erode the bilateral relationship at a time when cooperative efforts would be more desirable," Barshefsky said.

And then, she said, the dialogue is not intended as a means of ignoring difficult bilateral issues that remain between our two countries but "is an acknowledgement that there must be and should be cooperative aspects to U.S.-Korea relations that we must not lose sight of."

She also proposed that Korea and the United States embark upon a new program, "one which recognizes that mutual growth is in our mutual interests and one which recognizes that bilateral disputes should be resolved promptly and honestly in the best faith of both countries."

The trade official flatly denied a rumor that the U.S. administration will convene a so-called Clinton Round following the Uruguay Round.

Naval Officer Gives Secrets to Japanese Reporter

Officer Arrested for Divulging Secrets

SK2606014093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0118 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 26 (YONHAP)—A Navy lieutenant commander was under arrest Saturday, charged with giving military secrets to a Japanese correspondent based in Seoul. Lt. Cmdr. Ko Yong-chol, assigned to the military intelligence headquarters of the Defense Ministry, had been questioned by the Defense Security Command over why and how he obtained and passed to the Japanese reporter military secrets, a Defense Ministry spokesman said. Ko is charged under the Military Secret Protection Law.

Sources at the military investigative department refused to disclose the contents of the information, the exact charges against Ko or the identity of the Japanese. There might be more arrests, they said, and legal action may be taken against the Japanese correspondent. Foreigners are not covered by the Military Secret Protection Law, but the government might take an action like seeking his expulsion or making a formal protest.

Authorities To Expel Reporter

SK2806034693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0316 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 28 (YONHAP)—The military investigation authorities and the prosecution have decided to book a Japanese television correspondent without physical detention on charges of obtaining military secrets and then expell him from the country, informed sources said Monday.

Masato Shinohara, 40, a correspondent of Japan's Fuji Television Co., was taken into custody by both military and civilian prosecutors on Saturday and questioned through Sunday on suspicion of receiving five classified military documents from Navy Lt. Cmdr. Ko Yong-chol.

Earlier, officials at the Seoul district prosecutor's office said Shinohara had admitted to have received classified documents in the second class, which is one class below top secret.

The prosecution has decided not to physically detain Shinohara because it believes there was a possbility that he had obtained the documents as part of his news gathering activities and that his arrest might become an diplomatic issue between South Korea and Japan, the sources said.

The prosecution, however, is expanding its investigation because Shinohara was said to have received some other military information from Korean officials other than Ko, the sources said.

In addition to the five classified documents, the prosecution now suspects Ko could have provided Shinohara with an additional five classified documents that include "Air Force radar station locations," the sources said.

Ko said he had given the documents to Shinohara in exchange for the Japanese correspondent's lobbying for his promotion, according to the sources. Ko was believed to have given the documents between 1989 and September 1992, the officials said.

Authorities To Prosecute Reporter

SK2806015693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0139 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 28 (YONHAP)—Both the military and civilian authorities have decided to prosecute a Japanese television correspondent in Seoul on suspicion of illegally obtaining five classified military documents from a lieutenant commander of the South Korean Navy. The decision was made after the authorities took correspondent Masato Shinohara, 40, of Fuji Television Co. of Japan, into custody on Saturday and questioned him through Sunday.

Officials said Shinohara admitted that he had obtained five secret military papers, including documents classified in the second category, from Lt. Cmdr. Ko Yong-chol, 40. The authorities searched Shinohara's home in Seoul and the office of the Seoul bureau of Fuji television and seized 64 unclassified military documents, the officials said.

Both military and civilian prosecutors are expected to expand their investigation because Shinohara told them that he obtained the documents not only from Ko but other military people. The Japanese Embassy in Seoul, meanwhile, conveyed its concern to the Foreign Ministry on Sunday when Charge d'Affaires Masatoshi Muto called on Chu Kyu-ho, chief of the Northeast Asia Division One.

"It was unusual for any foreign correspondents stationed in Seoul to undergo an overnight questioning," Muto was quoted as saying. He asked the Foreign Ministry to pay attention to the affair, ministry officials said. Chu told Muto that it was up to the military investigators to determine whether Shinohara's acquisition of military secrets could be regarded as part of his news gathering activities. The Korean authorities were conducting their investigation in accordance with the law, the officials quoted Chu as telling Muto.

If the Korean authorities decided that Shinohara's acquisition of military secrets was not part of his news gathering activities, then he would have to be tried in a Korean court before being probably deported following negotiations between the two countries, informed sources said. But the Shinohara case could become a diplomatic issue if the Japanese Government insists Shinohara's activities were those of a newsman, they said.

According to Cho Chun-ung, the prosecutor at the Seoul district court who is in charge of the case, Shinohara received secret documents from Ko on four different occasions between 1989 and September 1992. Four of the documents were classified in the second class and one was in the third class.

Shinohara got acquainted with Ko through Ko's younger brother, Ko Yong-sam, 39, who worked part time at Fuji Television in Tokyo when he went to study in Japan in March 1989, sources said. In exchange for the document, Ko was understood to have asked Shinohara to use his influence to promote him to a commander.

One official at the Seoul district prosecutor's office said the National Security Law would not be applied to Shinohara since there was no evidence that the documents had been handed to North Korea. Shinohara told investigators, they said, that he had burned three of the five classified documents. They were on "the plans for military operation following unification," "the provisional plans for the transitional period," and "the deployment of Army infantries." Shinohara also told investigators that he used the documents to write an article that was eventually published in a specialized magazine, called "military research," the sources said.

Japanese TV Chief's Apartment Searched

SK2706015993 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 27 Jun 93 p 3

[Text] The prosecution yesterday sought for the house of a Japanese journalist to whom Navy Lt. Cdr. Ko Yong-chol, 40, a staff of the Defense Intelligence Agency, allegedly passed classified military secrets. Armed with a seizure and search warrant, Cho Chun-ung, senior security prosecutor of the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office, sought for the apartment of Shinohara Masato, 39, Seoul Bureau chief of Fuji TV Corp., in the Hangang Foreigners' Apartment Complex at Ichon-tong, Yongsan-ku, Seoul.

Documents described in the seizure and search writ included strategic deployment of military aircraft, combat posture in the transitional period and disposition of Army divisions. The law-enforcement authorities also made a thorough search in the Fuji TV's bureau office at Yoido-tong, Yongdungpo-ku.

Military prosecutors arrested Ko Friday on suspicion of giving Masato overall defense policies of South Korea including long-term arms buildup programs, according to a source available at the Defense Security Command. A native of Kwangju, Ko graduated from Choson University where he majored in Korean literature. He was a graduate from the Navy Officers' Candidate School's 63rd Class.

Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae, meanwhile, said that the case of military secrets leakage would be dealt with by the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP). But Kwon stressed that the investigators had not yet found any clue supporting that Ko received money from the Japanese in exchange of the classified secrets.

Czech Minister Offers Nuclear Technology

SK2606045293 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0400 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Czech Foreign Minister Josef Zieleniec, who is now visiting the ROK, met with President Kim Yong-sam today. On this occasion, he said that Czechoslovakia supplied nuclear technology to North Korea until 1988 and that he would provide the ROK with the nuclear technology Czechoslovakia provided to North Korea if the ROK wants it.

At the meeting, President Kim and Foreign Minister Zieleniec agreed that North Korea's nuclear development must be stopped and that North Korea must accept the International Atomic Energy Agency's special inspections [tukpyolsachal] and North-South mutual inspections [sanghosachal]. Foreign Minister Zieleniec asked President Kim to support the Czech Republic's plan to become a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council, and President Kim said that he would positively extend cooperation to this plan.

President Kim said that the reciprocal and cooperative relations between the two countries can develop thanks to the Czech Republic's advanced machine industry and market economy, and Foreign Minister Zieleniec said that the Czech Republic needs cooperative relations, not assistance. Foreign Minister Zieleniec conveyed Czech President Vaclav Havel's personal letter of invitation to the Czech Republic to President Kim, and President Kim said that he wanted to meet President Havel in the near future.

Kim Gives BBC Interview on Policy Toward DPRK

SK2806091393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0857 GMT 28 Jun 93

[By Kim Myong-chol: "Kim YS (Yong-sam) Demonstrates Strong Security Policy in BBC-TV Interview]

[Text] Seoul, June 28 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam demonstrated the strength of his civilian government's security posture when he enunciated his opposition to further U.S. concessions to North Korea in a recent interview with the British Broadcasting Corp [BBC].

Kim, interviewed by the BBC World Service just a week before the 43rd anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean war, expressed concern over the delaying tactics being used by North Korea to buy time as it prepares for war with South Korea.

In an apparent response to critics' view that the high-level Washington-Pyongyang talks in New York benefitted North Korea, he said Washington should not make further concessions in its talks with Pyongyang slated for sometime next month in Geneva.

Kim seemed to be thinking that although the North Koreans decided to suspend their departure from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] as a result of the talks with the Americans, they are delaying while preparing for war. He took note of the daily one-hour war drills in Pyongyang and the recent testing of a new missile over the East Sea.

Although many older South Koreans still have vivid memories of the Korean war, Kim says the country should prepare for a possible renewal of the conflict.

Some observers consider his BBC-TV interview an expression of discontent with the outcome of the U.S.-North Korea talks in New York, noting that it took place on June 17 when many South Koreans were unhappy about the talks and Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu was in Europe.

Some quarters in government have criticized Washington for giving away everything to North Korea and forgetting the South. They even say that Washington was used by Pyongyang.

Senior presidential secretary for foreign and national security affairs Chong Chong-uk's visit to Washington on June 18 had something to do with this criticism, observers say.

They also note that the Kim administration not only pushed a reluctant U.S. President into high-level talks with the North Koreans but also persuaded the Americans to help the North Koreans save face in the talks.

By saying it would stay in the non-proliferation treaty, Pyongyang did nothing to solve the problem created by its pullout decision. The ball now is in the North Korean court, and Kim says they face U.N. sanctions if they fail to make concessions on a par with those made by Seoul and Washington.

Han, accused by some of pursuing a naive policy toward North Korea, warned last week that the nuclear problem would again be on the U.N. Security Council agenda without special International Atomic Energy Agency inspections of North Korean sites suspected of being part of its nuclear arms development program.

When the Security Council earlier took issue with North Korea's NPT withdrawal decision, the North Koreans threatened to start a war.

Kim's call for full preparations for military conflict in the BBC-TV interview was his first public reaction to this North Korean threat.

The North Koreans were so puffed up by the outcome of the New York talks that they withdrew a proposal for inter-Korean dialogue and began look down on the South Koreans even more than before, according to observers.

North Korea's propaganda machine, for example, was relatively restrained in its criticism of South Korea until the talks but now churns out intense criticism and even defamation of Koreans south of the border, including Kim.

In his interview, Kim took a resolute posture on such change in North Korea's policy toward Seoul and suggested Pyongyang would get nothing from the world community without Seoul's cooperation.

The North Koreans should not test the capability of the government and they would find no chinks in its security network, Kim must have wanted to tell the North Koreans.

Kim, suggesting that North Korea would get no more from the United States and the international community if it used its talks with the United States to set back inter-Korean dialogue, made clear what his policies on North Korea and on security were, many observers agree.

Kim, visiting the government's Ulchi '93 command post exercise room recently, said that without a strong national security system there could be no economic growth and no politico-social reforms.

Newspapers View Interview

SK2606145793

[Editorial Report] On 26 June five Seoul vernacular newspapers published editorials and reporter's articles on ROK President Kim Yong-sam's interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation [BBC] on 25 June. They commented on his recent remarks stressing alertness against North Korea's possible provocations.

TONG-A ILBO carries a 1,000-word article by correspondent Song Yong-on on page 4 entitled "The Significance of President Kim's Interview with BBC." The article notes that in an interview with the BBC, President Kim said that "the United States should not make further concessions in negotiations with North Korea." He showed various examples to support his assertion that "North Korea is apparently preparing for war." Pointing out that the president's remarks are "stronger" than any other previous remarks on North Korean-U.S. talks and on North Korea's behavior, the article defines them as a "warning" to the United States and North Korea, showing our side's "resolute position" toward the North Korean nuclear issue, and as a "message" to the U.S. side urging it "not to be dragged into the North

Korean strategy" and not to make "further concessions" during forthcoming Geneva talks. The article points out that President Kim seems to "have determined that North Korean-U.S. talks did not help ease tensions in relations between the North and the South but rather the United States has been dragged into North Korea's intentions." The article adds that this message was likely conveyed to the U.S. side through Chong Chong-uk, the presidential assistant for security and foreign affairs who recently visited the United States. President Kim also believes that North Korea "has not changed even slightly" and has not discarded its "intention for southward aggression." The article notes that President Kim's remarks are intended to emphasize that "the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula" has not been solved in spite of North Korea's decision to withhold its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and that North Korea's moves are not "peaceful." The article reports that after the president made such remarks, some circles commented on them as being "too strong" and that they may "incite" North Korea, but President Kim said that his remarks were "appropriate."

HANGUK ILBO carries a 1,200-word article by correspondent Choe Kyu-sik on page 2 entitled "Analysis of President Kim's Interview with BBC." The article introduces details of President Kim's interview, including his views on U.S.-North Korean talks and on North Korea's nuclear issue. Pointing to our government's "concern" with North Korea's intention to lead the forthcoming Geneva talks to "political negotiations," the article notes that the government clarified its position that the talks should be "focused" on resolving the North Korean nuclear issue. It adds that President Kim's remarks illustrate that the President assumes the North Korean behavior and intentions as "very alarming." The article concludes by noting that President Kim's remarks made during the interview contain "a message" and "warning" to call attention of the United States and North Korea.

HANGYORE SINMUN carries a 1,300-word article by correspondent Kim Chol-won on page 2 entitled "Content and Significance of President Kim's Interview with BBC—A Signal of Protest against 'U.S. Policy Toward North Korea'." Introducing details of President Kim's interview, the article says that President Kim Yong-sam "openly voiced his discontent" with the results of North Korean-U.S. high-level talks. The article then points out that President Kim's "tough attitude" totally "contradicts" the official announcement made by a Foreign Ministry spokesman that North Korea-U.S. talks were welcomed as "progress in resolving the nuclear problem." The article says that President Kim's view "represents" the opinions of "conservative circles" in our society. The article concludes by stating that such a "tough attitude" by President Kim will be "a decisive blow" to those who regard North Korean-U.S. talks as making "progress in resolving North Korea's nuclear problem."

SEOUL SINMUN carries a 1,200-word article by reporter Kim Yong-man on page 5 entitled "Significance of President Kim's Interview with BBC—Multipurpose Warnings against North Korean Provocations." Describing the "expression of discontent" with U.S.-North Korean talks by President Kim on 25 June as "a good contrast" to our government's "official position" in the past, the article says President Kim interpreted that North Korea's test-firing of a missile and other moves as illustrating that the North is "preparing for war." The article then views President Kim's remarks as a "warning" for the United States not to make "further concessions" to North Korea in order to resolve the nuclear issue. An official in Chongwadae [presidential offices] stressed that President Kim's interview with BBC "fully reflects his true bias," noting it is not an "accidental expression" of his position. The article says that such a "tough position" by the president, which differs from his past position, was caused by North Korea's attitude, which has changed in a "negative way." North Korea's negative attitude includes "open condemnation" of President Kim and the "strengthening" of its existing strategy toward the South. The article quoted a high-ranking Chongwadae official as saying that the president's remarks were all based on "the actual security situation" and that the president is "concerned with the real possibility of war." This official also stated that "we are very much aware that the U.S. Department of State, although there were some complications, advanced the talks [with North Korea] while ignoring [tooesi] the ROK." The article concludes by stating that President Kim's remarks brought to surface our "actual concerns" with North Korea, which we concealed fearing a negative influence on our economic recovery.

CHUNGANG ILBO carries a 1,000-word editorial on page 3 entitled "The President's Noteworthy Remarks on the Nuclear Issue." The editorial describes President Kim Yong-sam's remarks from the interview on the North Korean nuclear issue as containing "noteworthy contents and messages." Introducing the details of the interview, the editorial says the president had concealed "worry and distrust" concerning North Korea's attitude for resolving the nuclear issue. But he "openly" expressed them this time, because North Korea is scheming to "ruin" North-South dialogue by ignoring the ROK since a road for direct dialogue with the United States opened. The editorial notes that North Korea's decision to withhold withdrawal from the NPT may be a "strategy" to obtain time for "nuclear weapons development and war preparations." The editorial calls on the government to set "clear goals" for solving North Korea's nuclear problems, including making North Korea permanently remain in the NPT; to fully accept nuclear inspections and implementation of declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. The editorial urges the government to maintain "close cooperation" with the United States during North Korean-U.S. talks in an effort to make North Korea realize the "importance" of North-South dialogue.

CHUNGANG ILBO also carries a 1,500-word article by reporter Kim Hyon-ik on page 3 entitled "The Background of President Kim's Successive Remarks on Alertness Against the North—Importance Is Attached to Security, as well as to Reform." Pointing to President Kim's recent emphasis on "alertness" against North Korean provocations, the article says that President Kim, in an interview with the BBC, expressed "concern" about the United States being "dragged" into North Korea's "delaying tactics" for war preparations. The article assumes that President Kim's recent "strong" remarks are intended to "calm" the discontent and worries of conservative circles and to express his "firm outlook on security." His remarks were also designed to "apply the brakes" on the "overspeeding" U.S.-North Korean contact. Highlighting President Kim's remarks that "the economic recovery and reform are possible only when founded on national security" that were made while he was inspecting the "Ulchi" exercise, the article concludes by noting that President Kim's successive remarks on security seemed "to call the United States and North Korea to attention," to inspire "a sense of alertness" of some people who are ignorant of security, and to resolve the people's "misunderstanding" of "excessively progressive forces" who are suspected of being hidden in "reform."

Kim Urges North To Give Up Nuclear Development

SK2506130193 Seoul YONHAP in English 1243 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 25 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam said on Friday afternoon that South Korea will positively help it if North Korea gives up nuclear development and joins the global flow of opening and cooperation. "I have the conviction that North Korea will before long follow this course," the president said.

President Kim made the remarks at a reception hosted by the Korean Veterans Association at the Sejong Cultural Center in observance of the 43rd anniversary of the Korean war. He said that despite the conclusion of the basic South-North agreement, North Korea has showed no change whatsoever in their traditional policy road. "But, the road North Korea should follow in the long run is very obvious, which should be the same path of opening, exchanges, reconciliation and cooperation its one-time fellow socialist countries have now chosen," he said.

DP, Former Chief of Staff Discuss 12 Dec Coup

SK2506094493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0837 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 25 (YONHAP)—Members of the main opposition Democratic Party's [DP] special committee on the 1979 coup visited Former Army Chief of Staff Chong Sung-hwa at his house in southern Seoul on Friday to hear him testify on the incident. Chung, who was also martial law commander at the time of the coup led by Army Maj. Gen. (later President) Chon Tu-hwan, was detained by the coup leaders and resigned from his post.

Committee members asked Chong what the martial law command, set up after the assassination of President Pak Chong-hui, knew about the "new military power" led by Chon and how it reacted. In particular, they asked Chong why he had said that "the military wouldn't interfere in politics under any circumstances but some officers including Gen. Chon harbored a dream for grasping power" in a secret meeting with U.S. Ambassador William Glysteen and Gen. John Wickham, commander of the U.S. Forces Korea.

At the same time, they heard how Chong had been taken to the joint investigation headquarters, a bastion of Chon's power together with the Defense Security Command. Meanwhile, Chong claimed in a telephone interview with YONHAP that the incident was an apparent coup by a group of junior officers headed by Chon, then commander of the Defense Security Command, to grasp power.

"The government should therefore persecute [as received] the central figures behind the coup. But otherwise, I am going to sue them together with other victims," he said. The party plans to hold a news conference Saturday [26 June] at party headquarters and make the contents of Chong's testimony public.

Papers Mark Anniversary of Start of Korean War

SK2506113293

[Editorial Report] On 25 June four Seoul vernacular newspapers published editorials marking the 43d anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean war.

TONG-A ILBO carries a 1,000-word editorial on page 3 entitled "'The 25 June Korean War' Anniversary in 1993." Deploring the people's "forgetfulness" of the days of the Korean war despite many "living witnesses," the editorial criticizes some people's "preposterous view of history" which claims that the Korean war was started by a "northward aggression" and "the United States' instigation." The editorial stresses that even the "ringleaders" who triggered the Korean war are reiterating the "lies" about the northward invasion. It points out that the "North Korean diplomats" have issued "threats" that another war may break out in Korea if "the United Nations adopts a resolution on sanctions against it over the nuclear issue."

Warning that "tensions are still prevailing" and the "original nature" of the North Korean regime has not changed in the 43 years since it "invaded the South," the editorial expresses "concern" about an "appeasement theory" put forward even by our cabinet member, criticizing his "trust" in North Korea's sincerity toward the South's "good will." The editorial calls on people not to "forget" the 25 June Korean war and to attain "national unity" to preserve peace.

CHOSON ILBO carries a 1,000-world editorial on page 3 entitled "The One Who Started the Korean War Is a War Criminal." Pointing to some circles' claim that the Korean war was started by northward aggression, the editorial stresses that the "falsehood" of this allegation has been proven by "decisive testimony" from Russian authorities. The editorial criticizes the North's "united front" strategy and urges the civilian government to establish an even tighter "outlook on security."

Pointing to "prevailing military tensions" in Northeast Asia even after the Cold War, the editorial call on people to prepare themselves against "confusion that will take place in North Korea" after Kim Il-song's death. It emphasizes that the 25 June Korean war was triggered "by collaboration among Kim Il-song, Stalin, and Mao Zedong," defining it as "provocative criminal act."

SEOUL SINMUN carries a 2,300-word editorial on page 3 entitled "The Korean War... Did They Forget It?" Condemning the North's line on "the reunification of the nation through communization," the editorial stresses that the North "has not lowered" these kinds of banners. The editorial points to the North's ignorance of efforts for "openness," noting it as an attempt to maintain its "tightly closed" political system. Noting that the number of victims from both sides during the Korean war totals about 3 to 4 million, the editorial urges people not to forget the wartime days and stresses that a war can be prevented only when people learn from history.

HANGUK ILBO carries a 900-word editorial on page 3 entitled "Disgrace of the Korean War in History." Deploring the lack of a correct definition of the Korean war, the editorial notes that 3 to 4 million Korean people died during that war and that this sacrifice was the "result of fighting between fellow countrymen." The editorial says the North side's allegation that the war was started by northward aggression is "nonsense," pointing to various "concrete witnesses" who give proof of Kim Il-song's southward invasion, including "Korean war-related materials" that Russian President Yeltsin plans to hand over to ROK President Kim Yong-sam. The editorial emphasizes that the North Korean system of worship of Kim Il-song, the hereditary transfer of power, and a military camp-like system demonstrate a system of "dependence on war." The editorial hopes that North Korea gives up its "reliance on war" system and make efforts to attain "stability" and "peace" on this land.

Electronics Companies Hasten Advance Into PRC

SK2806055293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0510 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Seoul, June 28 (YONHAP)—Korean electronics manufacturers have stepped up the pace of their advancement into China. Samsung Electronics Co. recently signed a contract to build a joint-venture factory in Tianjin to make video cassette recorders and is constructing a factory for radios and stereos in Huizhou, Guangdong Province, slated to be finished by September. The company says that it hopes to start turning out time division exchanges (TDX) this year at a joint-venture plant, currently under construction, and is considering opening assembly lines for computer memory chips in China.

Samsung Electron Mechanics Co. celebrated the completion of a factory for electronics parts in Dongwan, Guangdong, on June 18 and is to set up production lines of VCR parts in Tianjin in time for the opening of the Samsung Electronics VCR factory. Samsung Aerospace Industries Ltd. won a contract on June 24 to build a joint-venture camera factory in Tianjin. The Samsung Group says that the Samsung Electronics Co. office in Shanghai will be elevated to a locally incorporated company, and that Samsung will build more factories of its electronics affiliates to establish a full manufacturing, sales and after-service electronics network in China in three years.

Goldstar Co., which has had a factory making industrial pumps on Qinhuang-dao island since last year, signed a contract to build a joint-venture plant to produce radios and stereos in Huizhou on June 25 and says it hopes to build a VCR factory in Shanghai this year. Goldstar Information and Communications Co., which completed construction of a TDX plant in Weihai last April, will initiate manufacturing this year-end.

Daewoo Electronics Co., which has a refrigerator factory in Fuzhou, Fujian Province, is receiving orders for stereos as an original equipment manufacturer and is studying the possibility of building a joint-venture audio plant in Shenzhen. Hyundai Electronics Co. is moving toward setting up assembly lines for 1-mega dynamic random access memory chips in Shanghai. Anam Electronics Co. and Inkel Co. aim to build production lines for high-fidelity stereos in Xiamen in Fujian Province and in Shenzhen, respectively. The companies have finished talks with their Chinese partners and are waiting for business approvals from both governments.

Industry sources say that giant electronics manufacturers will move into China together with their subcontractors. Electronics companies are likely to move their manufacturing bases to China after Korean industrial complexes are completed there. Low-cost audio sets will disappear from the local market as their makers turn to China, they predict.

Burma

Delegates Continue Discussions 24 Jun

BK2506114793 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 24 Jun 93

[Text] Groups of National Convention delegates representing elected representatives and special invitees continued their panel discussions this morning in their respective meeting halls in the Kyaikkasan Grounds, Yangon [Rangoon].

The group representing elected representatives held its panel discussion on the prescription of fundamental principles of the state at 1000 this morning in Meeting Room No. 4. U Mahn Tin Aung Than of the Union Kayin League chaired the meeting, while U Myo Nyunt acted as secretary.

At the meeting, the suggestion report of U Yan Kin Maw of the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party—Kunlong Constituency, Shan State—was read and presented by U Maung Gyi of the Union Pa-o National Organization. The meeting ended at 1035 in the morning and decided to continue the discussion at 1000 on 29 June.

The group representing special invitees held its panel discussion on the same subject at 1000 this morning in Meeting Room No. 2. U Zakhun Ting Ring from Special Region-1, Kachin State chaired the meeting, while U Soe Lwin acted as secretary.

At the meeting, Dr. Chanta from Maungdaw Township, Arakan State and former Commissioner U Wan Tin held discussions and presented suggestions. The meeting adjourned at 1030 and decided to hold the next discussion at 1000 on 29 June.

Further Discussions 25 Jun

BK2606092293 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Groups of national convention delegates representing members of the intelligentsia and technocrats, and public service personnel continued their panel discussions this morning in their respective meeting halls on the Kyaikkasan Grounds, Yangon [Rangoon].

At 1000 this morning in Meeting Room No. 3, the group representing members of the intelligentsia and technocrats held a panel discussion on fundamental principles of the state that should be included in the constitution. U Aung Than, rector of the Yangon Institute of Technology, chaired the meeting and U Han Htu acted as secretary of the meeting.

After an opening speech by the chairman, the following delegates held discussions and presented suggestions: U Ye Htwe, puppeteer; U Thein Naing, professor of the Department of History of the Bassein Degree College; Daw Aye Than, professor of the Yangon University Department of Psychology; Dr. Thein Nyunt, surgeon; and U Thein Zan, principal of the Insein Technical Institute. The meeting ended at 1100 in the morning, and it was decided to continue the discussion at 1000 on 1 July.

The public service personnel group held its panel discussion on the same subject at 1000 this morning in Meeting Room No. 8. U Kyi Aye from the Ministry of Finance and Revenue chaired the meeting, while U Hla Win acted as secretary of the meeting. After an opening speech by the chairman, Lieutenant Colonel Lun Thi of the Ministry of Defense led a discussion and presented the suggestions. The chairman then gave a closing speech. The meeting ended at 1030 in the morning, and it was decided to hold the next discussion at 1000 on 28 June.

SLORC Bans Discussions on 'Political Matters'

BK2706125193 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 1345 GMT 24 Jun 93

[From the "Current World Affairs" program]

[Text] Dear listeners: A report on Burma says the SLORC [State Law and Order Restoration Council] has banned delegates from holding discussions on political matters at the National Convention. The report also says some delegates are being harassed by security officers for making important and critical comments. (Larry Shagen) reports that the banning of political discussions by the delegates followed shortly after high-level Burmese intellectuals, during their recent visit to Britain and America, said the National Convention is being held in a completely free and independent manner.

Dear listeners: According to Rangoon residents, the 700 delegates who are assigned to lay down the basic principles to draw up a new constitution now have to submit their speeches and suggestions to an executive committee, prior to their presentation at the Convention. This is to allow the committee to edit their suggestions and speeches. This executive committee arranges and coordinates the programs for the National Convention.

The delegates representing political parties are angry about this ban and many of the delegates also refused to accept this restriction. One of the opposition sources said the political parties refused to allow the executive committee to edit and make changes to their delegates' speeches because the parties believed that these delegates—representing political parties—were selected by the parties and their speeches have been approved by party leaders. Another source said the disagreement between the leaders of the political parties and the SLORC has been going on for over a week and no agreement yet has been reached.

Since 11 June, eight delegate groups held discussions on basic principles after Lieutenant General Myo Nyunt [chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission] and U Aung Toe [chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee] delivered speeches in which they laid down a list of what should be discussed with the resumption of the National Convention on 7 June. The groups representing political parties, elected representatives, peasants, workers, and national races are among the eight groups which are holding discussions on basic principles of the state. The executive committee has already announced the dates and times for all delegate groups—except for the delegate group representing political parties—to submit their speeches and suggestions to the chairmen of the Convention. The observers in Rangoon said there is evidence that indicates that the leaders of the political parties have not accepted the adamant demand of the government to edit their suggestions and speeches prior to the presentation at the Convention.

In his report, (Larry Shagen) quoted a source in Rangoon who said that many of the delegates were being extremely harassed by government personnel after they made critical speeches at the convention. More than two delegates from the group representing elected representatives were taken away and interrogated by the authorities. Moreover, military intelligence officers also questioned a former member of the Democratic Party, who is an independently elected representative, on why he had to say certain things in his speech. This took place at the dormitory for delegates one day after he gave a speech at the Convention. U Aung Toe, while playing the tape of his speech, asked this delegate to justify his criticisms.

Another independently elected representative from Chin Pyithu Hluttaw, during his speech on 11 June, rejected the renaming of the states by saying that it will be equivalent revoking their original birthplace. He was also asked to explain his comments in front of U Aung Toe.

The authorities are suppressing all kinds of antigovernment signs everywhere, according to the Rangoon residents. Recently, many students were also being arrested for distributing leaflets calling the National Convention 'a sham' and demanding the unconditional release of Daw Aung Suu Kyi on her birthday.

The suppression of delegates contradicts the SLORC's recent announcement in which it says it will allow free discussions at the National Convention. Retired Burmese officials and intellectuals, during their recent visit to Britain and America, said [the government] has allowed free discussions at the National Convention. Shortly after their visit, however, the ban on political discussions by delegates followed. It is like a contradiction of words and actions. Some observers says the main reason for this restriction on political discussions is due to the SLORC's decision to wrap up the National Convention before the end of this year.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Foreign Minister Condemns U.S. Attack on Iraq

BK2706133893 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Malaysia has expressed its regret over the United States' attack on Iraq. Foreign Minister, Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi told newsmen in Kota Baru that no peace-loving nation supports such an action.

The U.S. Navy attacked the Iraqi intelligence headquarters in Baghdad with 23 guided missiles launched from the Red Sea and the Gulf early today. The action was considered a retaliatory action against Iraq, which was accused of being involved in a plot to assassinate former U.S. President George Bush when he visited Kuwait last April.

According to Datuk Abdullah, the U.S. action against Iraq will not bring peace to West Asia but will further aggravate the existing situation. As a superpower, the U.S. should resort to consultations toward solving any differences with Iraq, not hostility. Such actions will only bring about continuous political instability and crisis in West Asia.

In Kuala Lumpur, the Malaysian Islamic Youth Movement, ABIM, considered the attack an effort by the United States to divert the global community's attention from the ongoing crisis in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Condemning the attack, the movement's secretary-general, Mr. Anuar Tahir, said the United States should have exerted its force against the Serbian aggressors instead of carrying out an attack on Iraq.

U.S. Official's Visit Gives 'Fresh Hope'

BK2606102093 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] The first-ever visit by a high-ranking official of the new Clinton Administration has raised fresh hope for better U.S.-Malaysia relations. [words indistinct] by the message got by U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Dr. Clifton Wharton.

It is indeed comforting to note that the U.S. has tried to understand and appreciate the concerns, interests and policies of Malaysia and ASEAN. Malaysia welcomes Wharton's call for placing greater importance on mutual understanding and the need for candid dialogues. This is especially so when there are differences of opinion.

Between Malaysia and the U.S. there are numerous differences over both the domestic policies and stand on international issues. But the deputy secretary of state's visit is a signal to start afresh and on a stronger level.

What is most encouraging is the conciliatory stand by the Clinton administration towards the East Asia Economic Caucus, EAEC. The issue was a thorn in bilateral ties between Malaysia and the ousted Bush administration. Wharton's comment showed an appreciation for Malaysia's sensitivities on this matter and a totally different approach by the U.S. Government toward continuing discussions on the EAEC.

In contrast, the Bush administration shot down the proposal even before the idea took shape. But the real issue was that it evolved to be a forum which will exclude the U.S. and, being a superpower, it could not accept this. The Bush administration did everything possible to dissuade others from joining up. Luckily, the proposal is still alive and (?bright). Anyhow it is supposed to stride forward given the positive stand by the U.S. Of course it is understandable that it is difficult for the U.S. to make a clear stand now as the EAEC has yet to be set up.

Against such a scenario, Wharton's remarks are indeed comforting. But this is left to be seen as all too often Malaysia has seen that the deeds of the U.S. do not always match its rhetoric. In the area of foreign policy, there does not seem to be much of a difference between the Republicans and the Democrats. It is still the American mind itself no matter who occupies the White House. Still some shifts in stances, views, and in the conduct of diplomacy can. turn out to be significant contributions to resolving problems and diffusing tensions. Since it has been in office for only six months, it has to be given a chance to prove its worth. However, the U.S. has showed a high degree of earnestness in wanting to get along on good terms with the rest of the world.

It also comes as a relief that President Clinton will not force any new world order on the rest of the world like his predecessor. Its recognition that Asian nations are taking independent positions based on national interests as against the close alignment with superpowers previously, is highly commendable.

As far as ASEAN is concerned, there is much the U.S. has to learn, particularly in efforts to promote regionalism for promoting economic growth. Washington has to learn that it cannot continue to push its way through, but forge a firm interdependent relationship with ASEAN and East Asia.

Advisory Role for KR in Cambodia Welcomed

BK2706065793 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Malaysia is happy that rival leaders in Cambodia are joining hands after the general election to form an interim coalition government. Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said this. He welcomed the patching up of differences by Prince Norodom Ranariddh whose royalist FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] party won the election and the incumbent prime minister, Hun Sen, and the agreement of the Khmer Rouge [KR] to be an adviser to the new government.

Speaking to reporters in Taiping in Perak State, Datuk Dr. Abdullah said the Khmer Rouge's agreement to be an adviser to the new government was also another positive development because the Khmer Rouge did not participate in the election. He expressed the hope the Khmer Rouge would be invited to join the coalition government to ensure continued peace and stability in Cambodia and the ASEAN region.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Denies Inviting KR To Join Government

BK2506122693 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 25 Jun 93

[25 June "denial" by Prince Norodom Sihanouk—read by announcer]

[Text] Some newspapers and television networks reported today that at my invitation the Khmer Rouge have agreed to return to Phnom Penh and become adviser to the Provisional National Government of Cambodia [PNGC]. I would like to make an official denial of this piece of false news. Someone must have seriously misunderstood the meaning of my letter in French that I recently sent to His Excellency Khieu Samphan, chairman of the party of Democratic kampuchea. The following is my clarification on this issue:

1. The Khmer Rouge group will send some of its officials to Phnom Penh simply as representatives of a political party. There are more than 20 political parties in Cambodia and the Khmer Rouge are just one of them.

2. Not a single Khmer Rouge is going to be a member of the PNGC. Neither will he be an adviser to me or the Cambodian Government.

Made in Phnom Penh, 25 June 1993
[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

Says Khmer Rouge 'Cannot Be Trusted'

BK2606060093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0541 GMT 26 Jun 93

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] PHNOM PENH, June 26 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Saturday the Khmer Rouge's offer to return to the Cambodian capital Phnom Penh simply as a political party cannot be trusted. The radical faction's nominal leader Khieu Samphan said in a letter to the prince Thursday he wanted to return to Phnom Penh simply as a representative of his party. He said he did not wish to seek power in the country's newly formed interim government.

"The Khmer Rouge said they just want to be simple people, or a simple party, but we must be careful about these simple people. We cannot trust them 100 percent," Prince Sihanouk said, speaking to 300 Buddhist monks and their followers at a religious gathering to celebrate the half-moon festival. He said the Khmer Rouge recognized the assembly, the government and the result of the U.N.-run election in May, which the guerrillas originally tried to violently disrupt.

"We must be careful with such sweet words because we have already tested the Khmer Rouge's sweetness. Pol Pot's fruit was quite bitter, even sometimes containing poison," he said, referring to the faction's nefarious leader whose rule in 1975-79 led to the deaths of some one million people.

Prince Sihanouk said the Khmer Rouge could take up a role of a vocal opposition to the government from their compound adjacent to the Royal Palace. Khieu Samphan and his followers abandoned the property in April fearing arrest from Phnom Penh government officials for "crimes against humanity."

The prince said the Khmer Rouge would have a useful role using their right to free speech.

"They will have the right to criticize the authorities. They can help stop them from being corrupt, using peaceful means, and stop using violence," he said.

Regarding the issue of ethnic Vietnamese settlers in Cambodia, the prince said the new government would negotiate with Vietnam for their return "like the British government has done concerning the Vietnamese boat-people in Hong Kong." But he stopped short of calling for Hong Kong-style refugee camps for illegal immigrants.

"The Khmer Rouge must stop creating violence against the Vietnamese people here," he said.

A series of Khmer Rouge massacres against Vietnamese settlers in Cambodia led to a mass exodus of tens of thousands of people earlier this year, but an unknown number are thought to remain. Many were born in Cambodia and are descendents of ethnic Vietnamese families living in this country for generations.

The Khmer Rouge have claimed that the country is still occupied by the Vietnamese forces that invaded Cambodia in 1978. Hanoi maintains that all its troops withdrew in 1989, but the United Nations has found a number of demobilized Vietnamese soldiers who stayed behind with Cambodian wives.

Speaks on Current Situation

BK2706091993 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Address by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council, at prayers for peace at Botum Vatdei Monastery in Phnom Penh on 26 June—recorded]

[Text] My reverential respects to the revered supreme patriarchs of the two sects, Venerable Patriarch Pouthiveang, Venerable Patriarch Mongkoltepeacha, and all venerable monks. My respects to the beloved Hindu priests, elders, older and younger brothers and sisters, children, grandchildren, and Buddhist followers.

This is a great honor for me, my wife, family, and entourage to be invited to this sacred place in front of the pipal tree, which is an inheritance bequeathed by King Preah Bat Samdech Preah Norodom, whose remains have been worshiped by all of us, and which is also the finest symbol of our Buddhism.

I thank the supreme partriarch of the Thamayut sect, who has organized this solemn ceremony, which is of supreme interest to our compatriots in the Cambodia that we revere and love until we die. We are duty-bound to serve, protect, build, and glorify our motherland under the shade of Buddhism, which we will again declare as the state and nation's religion in our constitution. I thank the supreme patriarch of the Mohanikai sect and Venerable Patriarchs Pouthiveang and Mongkoltepeacha, who have sincerely joined the venerable monks and the supreme patriarch of the Thamayut sect in this ceremony. The revered supreme patriarchs and Buddhist followers of the two sects, who have closely joined hands in fraternal love for the nation and religion, are the best example to us all, including some warring factions and parties that have divided the country into two or three parts. Both supreme patriarchs have set this good and most valuable example, which is a great lesson to us all, the eight or nine million Cambodians in and outside Cambodia. Cambodian people of all strata should know how to reunite since we worship Buddha, the dharma, and Buddhist monks. As the Buddhist monks have now shown us the way toward solidarity and national unity, we should follow in their footsteps without fail.

I thank the sacred Supreme Patriarch Buor Kry, who has organized this ceremony to pray for absolute and permanent peace for our Cambodia. And I thank all venerable monks who have joined the supreme patriarch in organizing this. Also, I praise and thank the elders and Buddhist followers, who have attended this service with the spirit of solidarity and unity and who have donated cash and all kinds of provisions and food to the Buddhist monks. This is a very good deed that will promote permanent peace, happiness, prosperity, and harmony for the generous persons themselves and for our compatriots and motherland as Indra, Brahma, angels, and the former kings used to bless us.

Today, the mild rain gives us coolness but does not prevent us from continuing our ceremony. [applause] Today is a very auspicious occasion for us all. As of now, we will proceed along the right and correct path toward glorious hope for our nation. I believe one day we will reunite as in the era preceding the 1970 coup d'etat. We will reunite, live in peace, and we will link ourselves to the splendid period of Angkor, the greatest era of our history. We will live in peace and glory under the shade of Buddhism forever.

Frankly speaking, a few years ago, [words indistinct], we had no hope of reaching the shore of peace. However, thanks to the might of the triple jewels, especially to all kinds of sacrifices of the venerable monks within the framework of Buddhism, and thanks to the devotion of Buddhist followers to the religion and nation, our Cambodia has now reached the shore of a lasting peace. [Applause].

Actually, peace has come since the signing of the Paris Accord on 23 October 1991. Nevertheless, after the signing of the accord, we were not really in peace because we continued to quarrel. Despite the establishment of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and although all parties agreed to follow the prince father, the SNC chairman, who asked them to stop fighting against one another, those parties broke their promises, continued to fight, shoot, kill, and destroy the nation, and things such as bridges and roads. They said they would stop fighting and follow the prince father in everything—a promise made by every party. Actually, some parties fulfilled that pledge, though others did not. So fighting continued. This caused a number of countries which are our supporters to become fed up. Besides, some countries looked down on our nation and wondered why Cambodians did not think about their interests and could not place their nation's interests above their own or that of their parties. They despised our nation, which was a prestigious, civilized, and glorious nation in the past, in the era of Sangkum Reas Niyum [Sihanouk's former political party], and especially in the Angkor era under the rules of [words indistinct] and King Jayavarman VII.

I have been calling on these children to follow me. Even if they cannot match the glory of the Angkor period, just try to match the Sangkum Reas Niyum, which was a glorious era, although of course not equal to the Angkor period.

Can this be done? The reply to me was: Yes, this can be done. Now they have agreed, 90 percent, to go along this way. [applause] I said this is good. [words indistinct] a few days ago, we had made 98 or 99 percent progress. [applause] Ninety percent includes the major parties—that is, FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia]; and the party called the State of Cambodia, now called the Cambodian People's Party [CPP]. These two have now agreed to be reconciled. They have followed the example of the two supreme patriarchs, who have patched up their differences. The political parties too are now united. We have two supreme patriarchs and now also two patriarchs in the political field—the cochairmen of the provisional national government of Cambodia: Prince Norodom Ranariddh, FUNCINPEC chairman and His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, CPP vice chairman. H.E. Chea Sim declined to hold this position and agreed to let his younger brother assume this role. The two supreme patriachs have given a good example of unity. They are united as brothers, respect each other, and have mutual understanding. The third party is that of Son Sann, which also won in the election, although not with many seats.

In the National Assembly FUNCINPEC won 59... [changes thought] ...58 seats; the CPP 51 seats; the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party of Son Sann 10 seats; and the MOULINAKA [National Liberation Movement of Cambodia] Party one seat. Altogether, there are 120 seats. The four parties are now reconciled with one another and have agreed to follow me 100 percent. From now on they will work for national unity and peace. Son Sann said: It is not enough to pledge to do this; Prince, please get everyone to swear in the Teveavinichai throne hall in front of the angels. This will be done again in the next few days. [laughter and applause] I will also make a vow myself. I have never betrayed the nation, only faithfully served it. But I will swear at the same so that others do not take this lightly. This should be taken seriously.

The government is being set up. There are two cochairmen and a number of vice chairmen. All the posts have been cooly and happily divided and allocated. There are a number of state ministers, ministers, and deputy ministers—altogether 60 posts.

In the past we only had 20, now there are 60. So be it, as long as there is peace. [applause] In the past, we said there should not be more than 20 posts. The prince father said we should not exceed 20. But now, alright, we will have 60 rather than a quarrel, because in a quarrel, as an international proverb says, when elephants get into a fight, ants are affected. If leaders are in a dispute, it is the people, citizens, our country, and our nation who suffer and not those big shots. And who go hungry? Who will be deprived of bicycles and cars? It is not those personalities because they are never short of these. So, these big shots should think about the poor who suffer.

I have explained this to these personalities. They are all educated people. They have now told me that they have understood. We do have hope this time, venerable ones. We have hope of finding a way out. We will have peace from now on [applause], 90 percent hope.

Now they want the prince father to command troops and the police. This is too heavy, getting an 72-year-old man to command troops and the police. Today being a holy day, how can I carry this out? [applause and laughter] This is against the Buddhist precepts. This task has been handed to the two cochairmen. I have now nominated by decree Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen to be the commanders of the troops, the police, and the security ministry, and so on.

Venerable ones, there is an advantage in having two persons. It would be difficult for corruption or bribe taking to take place. These two persons are next to each other;, they can check each other. It will be very difficult to take bribes. If there is only one party, one can do anything at will. There are now two or three parties, with Son Sann's party watching from below. There is alo the MOULINAKA Party with only one person; but he is knowledgeable and educated. He will be watching the big shots; if the latter misbehave, they will be exposed.

In the National Assembly there are your representatives who also keep their eyes wide open. Corruption will be defeated. This is good for justice in our society. This is genuine liberal democracy.

The National Assembly the other day appointed me as rightful head of state, with full authority and an abundance of power. No, this should not be so abundant. This cannot be called democracy. The prince father has made this request to compatriots who are citizens and people, the owners of the ballots who have made great sacrifices to vote—some died and others have become disabled before, during, and after the election. Now we are reconciled. You are the owners of the land. Not everything is up to the prince father. I am only the father; you are grown ups. You can decide the nation's destiny by yourselves. You are in power through the National Assembly. You can order your representatives, the National Assembly members, to do whatever is in accordance with your needs. Tell your representatives about your needs so they can be passed on to the government, which was born from the National Assembly, to do what you have suggested or proposed in accordance with the aspiration of Buddhist followers and you all, the owners of the land, our people and citizens.

We will become a liberal democracy, second to none, difficult to find among Third World countries. We dare to compete with big countries such as France and the United States.

I was talking to the representatives from a dozen countries who came to see me. They said that if Cambodians can unite, they will provide all kinds of assistance. I briefed them on our new doctrine and said that we want to compete with them. I dare say this. This is not different from Buddhism. Even though this is a holy day, I believe that I am not breaking any precepts here. Just to cite you an example I pointed out to those representatives.

In some states in the United States, people are still executed for criminal offenses. It is the same in Britain and in France, who call themselves developed democratic countries. I told them that we are Buddhists and that we are more advanced than you. On this issue, we respect human rights more than you do. For the biggest criminal offense, the tribunal can only impose a life sentence and not take a person's life. Lives should not be taken. We are more advanced than others. They have told us to acknowledge and respect human rights. We now know more than others. This is not out of greed, venerables. The most severe sentence is life imprisonment. There will be no capital punishment. This is just one example.

There are others. In France and the United States, the heads of state have great powers, almost like in a dictatorship instead of a democratic one. Thus, from now on our pride resides in the fact that the head of state is only the father of the nation and acts as its shade, while the power is in the hands of the National Assembly. The National Assembly will appoint a government. A head of state cannot appoint himself. This has to be done by the National Assembly with a two-thirds majority. In other countries, only 51 percent of the votes would be enough for the appointment of a government. In our case, a two-thirds majority is needed. Who can topple the government? Only the National Assembly can do this and not the head of state.

The head of state therefore does not have power. He is only acting as a shade for the nation and is appointed by the National Assembly, who represents the people, the masters of the land. The National Assembly is elected to make laws for the state, appoint, control, topple, and change a government as the people wish.

In this respect, our democracy is (?greater) than major countries, such as France and the United States. This is our nation's pride. How did we do this? I, who have received full power from the National Assembly, have used this power to make the National Assembly really strong rather than to empower Norodom Sihanouk or heads of state following Norodom Sihanouk. Rather, this is giving power to the National Assembly in what is called a parliamentary regime [preceding two words repeated in French]. It is not a presidential regime [preceding two words repeated in French]. It is not the head of state but the National Assembly which has power. Please be informed.

This is good. This is a guarantee. There is only one head of state who can make a mistake, while there are 120 persons in the National Assembly who are not from just one party. With a single party, under the guidance of a Political Bureau, the National Assembly can be led. But in this case, there are four parties watching one another. This is a guarantee that work will be performed properly. For example, if party A misbehaves, parties B, C, and D will together voice their criticism and point out the right direction to follow. If party B does not behave, party A, C, and D will (?give warning). So, as they will check on each other, there is no way they can misbehave. This is a guarantee which is comforting for us who believe in genuine liberal democracy. This means that our citizens will have all sorts of freedom. However, this is not the freedom to stray from the eight and five Buddhist precepts. To do otherwise would be illegal. Our regime will follow Buddhism and this is also in accordance with international law.

Last month, I met with the representatives of major countries which are ready to help us in our national reconstruction and in assisiting us to provide salaries to military and civilians personnel. They said what they want to see is that we stop fighting, that we have peace, that we adhere to genuine democracy, and that our citizens are really in power. The prince father will not be a dictator and he will ensure that our citizens have real power. These representatives are now happy and they can no longer criticize Sihanouk.

So, we have solve all sorts of problems now. What else is there? What remains is the issue of Democratic Kampuchea. It is nearly the end now and I would like to ask for about five more minutes. Then the ceremony to offer food to the clergy can start. Please give me about seven more minutes.

The Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] had earlier said that if elections were held, it will create insecurity and will forestall the elections. Not only did it not take part in the elections, it also threatened others against voting. There was some damage done as a result of this. The other day some bridges in Siem Reap and Battambang were destroyed. Mines were used and bus passengers killed. It seems that this side has not yet really listened to my advice. Democratic Kampuchea say they respect and love me, but they have not really listened to me.

As I have just said, when you happily applauded, the PDK has now changed its tones. In the past, it said it would not accept the election result, but now it says that it accepts the result. Earlier it said that it would not recognize the National Assembly and the government, but now it does. It has changed a lot, thanks to the power and merit of the Buddha, his teaching, and the clergy, and the sacred pipal tree. Those of you who have studied the Lord's doctrine know more about this than I do. The Buddha, represented by the clergy has spread Buddhist teaching. This has now reached the Khmer Rouge, who are now more enlightened, although not to the point of become an arahan [last stage before a Buddhist follower can attain enlightenment and become a Buddha]. The Khmer Rouge are still a long way from that. But they are now more enlightened. They said: The prince has told us, the PDK—they do not call themselves Khmer Rouge—that we can return to stay near the royal palace if we want to. The palace provides a cool shade for them. The Democratic Kampuchea side said it is willing to be a simple party. This is a good point. It recognizes the National Assembly, the government, and the poll results. What it wants is to be a political party. There are 20 political parties in our country. The PDK is willing to be a simple political party, of simple people. Nevertheless, we should be careful with these simple people. We cannot trust such simple people 100 percent. We must be careful with such sweet words because we have already tasted the sweetness of the Khmer Rouge. We used to eat Pol Pot's fruits, which were quite sour and bitter. And sometimes the fruits were even poisonous.

Today is a holy day; we are not going to slander the Khmer Rouge. But we now firmly hope—given their sweetness—that they will be conciliatory, not 100 percent, but perhaps 60 or 70 percent. This is a great improvement. I said to the Khmer Rouge that this land really belongs to the royal palace, but I can let them stay there for many years to come. Come and be a party like others within the framework of the constitution and democracy. You have the right to criticize those in power and help check them to prevent them from being corrupt and from misbehaving. You can criticize them in your newspaper and on your own radio. You have this freedom as rightful citizens. Use peaceful means instead of violence. [words indistinct] they said they are fighting the Vietnamese, but scores of Cambodians died instead. So, stop playing this game.

About the border issue. Vietnam promised me a long time ago in writing that the border would be the one that already existed in the 1960s, in 1960-69, before Lon Nol's coup. So the border will be agreed upon in accordance with this. There is no problem about this issue.

Only the issue of Vietnamese troops remains. There are no Vietnamese troops but only Vietnamese civilians in Cambodia. The problem of the Vietnamese civilians should be resolved through diplomatic negotiations with the Hanoi government. Our government will be set up in a few days' time. We will sort things out the way the British Government dealt with Vietnamese refugees in Hong Kong and repatriated them to Vietnam through negotiations. Those with the right to live in Cambodia will be allowed to stay; those who came illegally should be asked to return to Vietnam. This will be done through negotiations and not through violence, the way the Khmer Rouge operated. The Khmer Rouge has just killed Vietnamese in villages; this is against Buddhism and international law.

I therefore firmly hope, based on what the Khmer Rouge have said, that they will agree to all this. So, we have now made more than 90 percent progress. And if the Khmer Rouge agree to follow the prince father, we can say that we have made 98 percent progress. What we never hoped to solve is now solved for the glory of our religion, nation, and motherland, and also for the happiness and prosperity of our people and 8 or 9 million citizens.

Therefore, compatriots, please be informed that today we are performing this ceremony with optimism, happiness, and solidarity. From now on, we know that our country is one adhering to liberal democracy with full freedom for everyone. You are the master of your destiny [applause] with your own assembly and government. The assembly and government are the people's. They are yours, revered clergy and compatriots. We therefore have a very solid basis; we will survive as an independent Cambodia with territorial integrity. We are a people and nation in which citizens enjoy full freedom, independence, and sovereignty. We will have peace.

The only snag is the Khmer Rouge; but the latter have now understood about 60-70 percent of the issue. We are now really heading toward our goal. This calls for joy today and in the days ahead. This is worthy of pride for the nation.

Thank you. [applause]

Mixed Military Working Group Meets 23 Jun

BK2506142393 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] On 23 June, the chiefs of the Armed Forces General Staff of the three Cambodian factions, namely Generals Pol Saroeun, Diel Del, and Tun Chay attended a meeting of the Mixed Military Working Group [MMWG] at UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] Headquarters under UNTAC Force Commander General John Sanderson.

Also present at the meeting were Gen. (Chum Choeun), military commander of the breakaway Khmer People's National Liberation Armed Forces; and UNTAC Force Deputy Commander Gen. [name indistinct].

The MMWG issued a joint communique, the gist of which follows:

A proposal was made for a draft bill to be sent to the Supreme National Council for approval on theory and work programs for an effective compromise in the transitional period prior to the end of the UNTAC mandate, and an appeal was made to the Khmer Rouge to maintain calmness and respect the cease-fire.

Gen. Sanderson opened the meeting by encouraging the Cambodian military sectors to maintain their system of joint command and to work jointly to be a model for troops on the battlefield. He added that UNTAC has opened contact networks with the Khmer Rouge and UNTAC's success depended on the MMWG.

On behalf of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF], Gen. Pol Saroeun said the CPAF continued to maintain by heart and soul its pledge made during the previous meeting to turn the three factions' manpower into a new Armed Forces.

Gen. Pol Saroeun added that doors would be left open so that the other factions can join.

Joint Statement Issued

BK2606051693 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Jun 93

["Joint Statement of the Chiefs of Staff of the Cambodian Armed Forces" dated 23 June—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. A meeting of the Mixed Military Working Group was held this afternoon at UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] headquarters. This meeting was held under UNTAC's chairmanship with the participation of the chiefs of staff of the Cambodian armed forces from the three sides that are signatories of the Paris agreement and that took part in the recent UNTAC-organized elections.

At this meeting, the following agreement was reached:

—Submit bills to the Supreme National Council [SNC] for decision;

—Officially establish the Cambodian Armed Forces;

—Offer His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk the role of commander in chief;

—Establish an expanded mixed military working group to include the chiefs of staff and members of the constituent assembly in charge of coordinating the Cambodian Armed Forces during the transitional period;

—Set up a working plan and procedures to enable this coordination to function efficiently during the transitional period before the end of UNTAC's mandate.

2. The chiefs of staff of the Cambodian armed forces would like to specify that the peace achieved through national reconciliation is the clear aspiration of the Cambodian people. The chiefs of staff are happy to work in support of this process.

An appeal is renewed to the troops of Democratic Kampuchea to remain calm and to abide by the cease-fire. Hope is expressed in advance for the support and assistance of the international community to the Cambodian armed forces.

Khmer Rouge Attack Moung Russei District 23 Jun

BK2606130093 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] According to a report from Battambang Province, from 1400 to 1700 on 23 June some 70 Khmer Rouge elements from Divisions 5, 505, and 36 attacked positions of the 4th battalion of the State of Cambodia [SOC] stationed in Moung Russei District of Battambang Province. The SOC's armed forces counterattacked, killed 11 enemy soldiers on the spot, and seized four firearms. However, one SOC combatant was killed and four others wounded.

Indonesia

Alatas: No Israel Ties Until Palestine Issue Settled

BK2606144093 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Indonesia will not consider establishing diplomatic relations with Israel as long as the Palestinian issue and Arab-Israeli dispute remain unresolved. Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said this to his Israeli counterpart Shim'on Peres, who had asked Indonesia to establish diplomatic relations with his country. The two ministers met by chance at the human rights conference in Vienna.

A press release issued by the Foreign Affairs Department received by RRI in Jakarta this evening says an Abu Dhabi-based daily AL-ITIFAD had carried a misleading report on the possible establishment of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and Israel. The Foreign Affairs Department's news release dismissed the report as untrue.

During the chance encounter between the two ministers at a luncheon hosted by the Austrian foreign minister in Vienna, Minister Alatas told his Israeli counterpart in no uncertain terms that Indonesia's stand is obvious—namely, it always supports the struggle of the Palestinian people and Arab countries.

Daily Welcomes Goals of Human Rights Commission

BK2706063193 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 9 Jun 93 p 4

[Editorial: "The Establishment of a National Commission on Human Rights"]

[Text] The National Commission on Human Rights was set up based on Presidential Decision No. 50 in an effort to improve and promote a more favorable human rights situation in Indonesia. Certainly, the decision is receiving a positive response from everyone. The establishment of the national commission is considered momentous because it comes into effect just before the opening of the conference on human rights in Vienna. In view of that, the formation of the commission will promote Indonesia's image in the eyes of foreigners as well as fulfill the Indonesian people's hope for more concrete measures to step up human rights protection.

Every aspect of the National Human Rights Commission's existence would be better if it had been set up through a legislative process. Even though in the eyes of law, the Presidencial Decision is weaker than laws passed by the House of Representatives, at least some controversial views and differences of opinions on the setting up of the National Commission on Human Rights could have been ironed out, neutralized, and eliminated—its existence based on a Presidential Decision notwithstanding.

Briefing newsmen on the Presidential Decision No. 5 at his office on Tuesday [8 June], Minister/State Secretary Mudiono said, although the State Secretariat would provide financial support to the commission, the commission is an independent and nongovernmental organization. Based on Mudiono's explanation, we can conclude that the commission has the broad tasks of promoting human rights protection and monitoring and investigating the implementation of human rights based on the Pancasila ideology, the 1945 Constitution, the UN Charter, and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. According to Mudiono, the objectives of the commission are to promote human rights protection for the people in the country, which will inturn help achieve the objectives of national development and a generally more qualified Indonesian society would be created.

To achieve these objectives, the commission will be involved at the national and international level in promoting human rights activities. It will also study several UN activities involved in the promotion of human rights in order to give its views, proposals and/or ratifications on access to human rights.

Mudiono also said that the National Commission on Human Rights has been set up using the UN Commission for Human Rights as a model. Its other important task is to monitor and investigate the human rights situation and give its views to the government agencies as well as carry out regional and international cooperation to promote human rights protection.

The independence of the commission can be interpreted from the composition of its membership, which will be comprised of national figures. The first full membership of the commission will be selected, appointed, and installed by the president; later, the commision's membership will be governed by its bylaw. For a start, the president has appointed former Chief Justice Ali Said SH [Master of Law] as its first chairman. It is hoped that the members of the commission will be made up of national figures that really care for and have a good understanding of the cause of promoting human rights.

The commission's membership composition is very important because its independence in making decisions, and giving objective evaluations on human rights issues should be convincing so that it is able to guarantee that the promotion of human rights protection should be highly regarded and consistently applied. The fact that the commission does not have an executive power, and that it is only a nongovernmental organization that monitors, investigates, find facts, and makes recommendations, leads us to raise this question: how will the commission effectively and consistenly apply its recommendations? This is because the government can either accept or reject any proposal or recommendation made by the commission by citing certain excuses.

The National Commission on Human Rights is expected not to be under the influence of any particular groups, neither the government nor the politicians, when carrying out its duties. The implementation of the recommendations made by the commission, definitely depend on the government officials' ability to put those recommendations into practice.

However, the existence of the commission would at least prove that Indonesia is serious about striving for the protection and promotion of human rights. The setting up of the commission also proves that Indonesia is not supporting human rights because it is under pressure from certain foreign countries to do so, but because it is an integral part of its national politics, which guarantees that even minimum human rights cannot be violated, whatever the situation.

Asylum-Seekers Reject Guarantees; Alatas Comments

BK2506152493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1315 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] JAKARTA, June 25 (AFP)—Three East Timorese, at the Swedish embassy here requesting political asylum, refused safety guarantees offered by Jakarta Military Commander Major General Hendro Priyono and continued to insist Friday on leaving the country.

"There is yet no compromise...they insist to be given tickets and passports and leave the country (Indonesia)," Hendro said after almost three hours of negotiations with the three East Timorese, inside the Swedish embassy since Wednesday.

Hendro reiterated an earlier statement by Armed Forces Commander Feisal Tanjung's which said force would not be used in handling the East Timorese, who say they have been persistently pursued by Indonesian security police and fear for their lives.

Swedish diplomats here have said Stockholm considers only political asylum requests made on Swedish soil, and does not consider its embassies as such.

Before attempting to negotiate with the three pro-independence East Timorese, Hendro said that "as long as they are in this province (Jakarta), they will never be arrested". He said the three East Timorese—Florencio Anunciacao Fernandes, 22, Porfiro da Costa Oliveira, 23, and Jose Manuel de Oliveira Sousa, 24—"do not have clear motivation" for their demands for asylum.

Four other pro-independence East Timorese left the Finnish embassy, in the same central Jakarta building as the Swedish embassy, late Thursday after more than 24 hours there pressing demands for political asylum.

Most of the seven, aged 20 to 27, were present and several wounded in a November 1991 demonstration in the East Timor capital of Dili at which Indonesian soldiers opened fire. According to an official inquiry into the incident, 50 people were killed, but witnesses at the demonstration put the death toll at some 120.

Indonesia invaded the former Portuguese colony of East Timor, to the east of Indonesia's main island of Java, in 1975 and annexed it in 1976. The United Nations does not recognise Indonesia's annexation, and regards Portugal as the administrative power of East Timor until it becomes independent.

The seven say they have been pursued and their families harassed by Indonesian security forces ever since the 1991 bloodshed. They said they fled East Timor about a year ago for the Indonesian capital of Jakarta, where they believed they could better evade capture.

Indonesian authorities have pledged not to arrest the asylum-seekers. The four who left the Finnish embassy were taken to the residence of a high-ranking Indonesian official who was born in East Timor.

Hendro stressed it would be impossible for Indonesia to pay for foreign passports and air tickets for the three East Timorese. It was unclear whether he was reflecting the official stand of the Indonesian authorities.

Haj Johannes Princen, a leading Indonesian human rights activist who had been asked by Swedish envoys to serve as mediator, said earlier Friday the three East Timorese saw themselves as Portuguese citizens and were asking for Portuguese passports in order to leave the country.

Hendro warned that should "the embassy asks us to take them out (of the embassy), then we will do that."

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas told journalists shortly after arriving here from an official visit to several European countries that "it looks like these children had been manipulated."

"There is a strong suspicion that all this has been engineered by our enemies, even those abroad... in the framework of continuously undermining us, attempting to corner our position," Alatas said.

He noted the speed the news of the seven's request for political asylum had spread in Europe. He said journalists there knew long before he did of the incident.

Meanwhile embassy officials have declined to say whether the three in the Swedish mission were still on a hunger strike they had started late Wednesday to press their demands for aslyum. Hendro said they had eaten bread Friday morning. One East Timorese told a journalist he was still on hunger strike.

Swedish Embassy Stuck With Protesters

LD2606145793 Stockholm Sveriges Radio Network in Swedish 1030 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] The Swedish Embassy in Jakarta has ended up in a deadlock in its attempts to get three students from East Timor to leave the embassy voluntarily. Embassy Councillor Anders Stohr is afraid that the negotiations will take a long time.

[Unidentified correspondent] East Timorese students moved in the waiting room of the embassy four days ago. The embassy building in Jakarta is now also guarded by Indonesian policemen and military personnel in civilian clothes, the Swedish counsellor of embassy in Jakarta, Anders Stohr, confirms. Despite the fact that the students have received guarantees from the Indonesian authorities that nothing will happen to them if they leave the embassy, they refuse to go out. Instead, they demand tickets and passports so that they can go to Portugal, but Indonesia refuses to allow this. The negotiations are thus in deadlock and Anders Stohr says there is no solution in sight. It is impossible to say how long this will take, it might be over in an hour or take several weeks, Stohr has told this program by telephone.

Two years ago the students were eyewitnesses to a bloody massacre of demonstrators in East Timor, which has been occupied by Indonesia since 1975. That is why they are afraid that the Indonesian security service will get rid of them, as they have done with other eyewitnesses.

Alatas: Foreign 'Enemies' at Work

BK2606143693 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1307 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Jakarta, June 26, (OANA—ANTARA)—Minister of Foreign Affairs Ali Alatas has stated that there is a strong possibility certain foreign countries engineered the asylum request here by seven youths claiming to come from East Timor. We strongly allege that the asylum seeking was engineered by our enemies who always try to damage our image at international fora, said Alatas upon arrival here Friday from his visit to some countries of Western Europe.

Alatas, who also attended the human rights conference in Vienna, Austria, stated that the strong suspicion was based on the fact that some Portuguese journalists in Vienna shot some questions to Minister Ali Alatas while there was not yet report of such an event from Jakarta.

Where they got the information from. [sentence as received] I was really surprised when I heard the questions concerning the asylum seeking. I only got the information one hour later, he said.

He stressed that it had proven that all things has been always engineered in efforts to discredit Indonesia, as such an event, if successful, will ripple worldwide and work to a disadvantage of Indonesia. To solve the problem Indonesia, therefore, has adopted a flexible and human approach with the political asylum seekers.

We're trying to persuade and convince them. It appears that they are (asylum seekers) being used by certain groups, he said.

On Wednesday four young East Timorese came to the Finnish Embassy and three to the Swedish Embassy here to request a political asylum. But the day after the two embassies strongly rejected their plea for asylum. The four youngsters left the Finnish Embassy on Thursday and they are now being accomodated in the residence of Indonesian Ambassador-at-Large for Special Tasks Lopez da Cruz. The other three were reported to have asked for being allowed to go to Portugal.

Asked about their wish to go to Portugal, Minister Alatas pointed out that there is not yet detailed reports on their plea.

We're waiting for latest development. I have no idea why they request to go to Portugal, he said.

Alatas pointed out that such a case had occurred several times in the past without any clear reasons.

Asked by reporters what would be Indonesia's response if it is confronted with such an asylum request, for example, from a number of youngsters of Moro which is fighting for an independent state in the Philippines, Alatas asserted that Indonesia will reject such a plea.

We'll not grant such an asylum plea. We'll always try to persuade them not take their rights for asking asylum. [sentence as received] We have a flexible policy, as had been applied to the boat people from Cambodia and Vietnam, he said, adding, we only gave them (boat people) a temporary asylum.

Alatas stressed that there was no asylum seekers that had been detained here in this country. However, they need to be convinced and such a process take time, he said.

The asylum seeking was the third of its kind. In 1989, a number of East Timorese came to the Japanese and Vatican Embassies here for political asylum. Previously, in the first case, it was reported that a number of Indonesians came to the Dutch Embassy to ask for political asylum.

During his visit to Western Europe, Minister Alatas had attended the human rights conference in Vienna, Austria and held meetings with several important figures of the region.

Laos

President Greets Sihanouk on Appointment

BK2606121093 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 26 Jun 93

[25 June message of congratulations from Lao President Nouhak Phoumsavan to Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Phnom Penh on the occasion of his appointment as head of the State of Cambodia]

[Text] Respected Samdech: on the occasion of your being given an honorable assignment by the constituent assembly of the State of Cambodia, namely, the noble post of head of the State of Cambodia with full authority in all affairs, on behalf of the Lao people and in my own name, I would like to express my sincere congratulations to you.

Throughout the past period in the history of Cambodia, you have striven greatly and sacrificed much in the tasks of bringing independence and liberty to the nation and well-being to the Cambodian people. With your relentless endeavors, you have not only won respect and confidence from the Cambodian people but have also received praise and wide support from the international community.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the Lao people are very pleased to see that the Cambodian people, whom they love and are closely associated with, have achieved a great success in the election in late May, thus opening a new era in the national history. As a close neighbor and a signatory of the Paris peace accord on the comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem, the LPDR respects the rights to self determination of the Cambodian people and will forever continue to promote and expand the traditional good relations of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation with the Cambodian people.

I am firmly confident that the country and people of Cambodia with Samdech as head of state will find success in achieving national reconciliation in order to gain the desired prosperity and steady progress.

I extend my best wishes to the samdech for his good health, longevity, and happiness ad infinitum.

Philippines

Ramos Comments on Iraq Bombing

HK2806095293 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0624 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Weekly news conference by Philippine President Fidel Ramos with local and foreign correspondents held at Malacanang Palace, Manila—live, in English]

[Excerpts] [Ramos] I wish to make a statement before we open the press conference. Good afternoon everybody. I would like to specially greet the members of the Foreign Correspondence Association, the FOCAP, those from the provinces, those from abroad, and especially those who are here for the first time.

First of all, the announcement of something that you knew since yesterday because you were very inquisitive, and this is the appointment of Richard J. Gordon as chairman, Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, effective July 1 1993. Okay. Of course, he is submitting his resignation as mayor of Olongapo City. And also the appointment of Panfilo Villaruel Jr. as assistant secretary for the Air Transportation Office, Department of Transportation and Communications, effective July 1 1993, vice the late Gerardo C. Protacio. Retired Major General Protacio died barely two days ago in office. And in the meantime, his number two is the OIC [officer-in-charge] and Mr. Villaruel, who is well known in the civil aviation industry has been appointed to take over on the first of July.

We have also appointed as the deputy commissioner, BIR [Bureau of Internal Revenue], Attorney Rene G. Banez, effective today.

I have also designated as officer-in-charge of the Central Bank of the Philippines, effective July 3 1993, Mr. Edgardo P. Zialcita, who is the senior deputy governor of Central Bank, effective when the incumbent governor, Mr. Jose Cuisia, relinquishes that office, which is when the new Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas [Central Monetary Authority] comes into being. [passage omitted]

[Jurado] Mr. President, I am Willy Jurado. I am president of the National Press Club of the Philippines-U.S.A., and I head the two newspapers in California—the MANILA BULLETIN-U.S.A. and, of course, the (?bi-annual newspaper—the EYE.)

Mr. President, in America we are so concerned about what is happening in the world today. Will you give us the reaction of the president of the Philippines with regards to the recent bombing of Iraq by our armed forces?

[Ramos] You mean the Armed Forces of the United States?

[Jurado] Yes. [laughter]

[Ramos] We don't have missiles here yet. [laughter] Thank you, Willy.

For your information, this gentleman Willy Jurado is an old friend. He had covered the defense beat before when we were both young ones, and has carved an image for himself in Philippine journalism. Of course, he is now on to greener pastures. He is also a veteran of World War II and one of the heroes of the USAFIP-NL [United States Armed Forces in the Philippines-Northern Luzon] that saw the liberation of Northern Luzon.

In regard to your question, Willy, first of all, the Philippine Government has taken the position of condemning terrorism of any kind, specially international terrorism. I understand the recent bombing of Iraq by U.S. forces was a reaction to findings from U.S. intelligence sources that there was a confirmed assassination plot against former President George Bush of United States. We suppose that this bombing incident was a reaction by President Clinton towards that confirmed attempt. We hope, however, that this will not lead to any further international complications that might threaten the stability of the Middle East. And that since it would be the smaller countries that would suffer from this, like the Philippines, since we have so many nationals in the area in the person of our overseas contract workers, that we would want this to be a one-time thing, so that it would not lead to greater threats to the stability of the region.

[Unidentified reporter] Sir, have you given instructions to our embassy personnel there to prepare evacuation measures for our workers in Iraq?

[Ramos] No. This time, in our assessment, this is not yet necessary, but we have asked the Department of Foreign Affairs to monitor the situation very, very carefully and to inform the authorities concerned, specially me, of the developments. We are monitoring it from our side. [passage omitted]

Thailand

Editorial Calls U.S. Attack on Iraq 'Justified'

BK2806033093 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Jun 93 p 4

[Editorial: "Iraq brings more bombs on its head"]

[Text] IRAQ is the problem that won't go away, for the United States or the rest of the world. President Clinton's decision to launch a Saturday night missile strike against a Baghdad intelligence headquarters was an event that waited two months to happen. Ever since Kuwaiti officials arrested alleged members of an Iraqi plot to kill former president George Bush, it was clear Mr Clinton would have to provide a tough response. But the US strike against the Mukhabarat secret police facility has also highlighted simmering problems in Iraq.

In recent weeks, officials charged by the international community to deal with Iraq have been warning of new obstacles in Baghdad. President Saddam Husayn's regime has put up new roadblocks. The two-year-old programme to destroy Iraq's ability to produce and use poison gas is near breakdown. Iraqi authorities have continued to deny UN inspectors access to information and to sites where chemical warfare has been planned and carried out. Only last week the Russian chief inspector complained that his team was prevented from destroying important equipment used to manufacture gas.

A second source of worry, apart from the reported terrorist attack planned against Mr Bush, is the menace of the Iraqi army. Officials have reported for more than two months an ominous buildup of Iraqi forces near both the northern and southern "safe zones" established to protect Kurdish and Shiite minorities in Iraq. Intelligence sources have predicted a coming offensive close to these zones by Mr Husayn's Republican Guards and other elite forces. Technically, the international community would have to stand by and watch such brutality, unless the Iraqi leader mistakenly sends his troops across the arbitrary lines patrolled by international airpower.

The April plot against Mr Bush during a triumphant visit to liberated Kuwait was another of Mr Husayn's miscalculations. Exposed by a patriotic Kuwaiti smuggler, the assassination plan quickly blew up against the dreaded Mukhabarat. From the moment Kuwaiti police arrested the alleged plotters, Mr Clinton made it clear he was waiting only for strong enough evidence before he acted. Within the United States, opinion ran high that the Iraqi regime must be made to pay if confirmation of Kuwaiti charges was clear. The president sent US investigators to Kuwait to collect evidence. The investigators told Mr Clinton the evidence was clear, and the president ordered the strike against Baghdad.

Although the legal court proceedings against the seven alleged plotters to kill Mr Bush continues, the strike against the secret police headquarters was justified. There is also little doubt that most civilised nations will back Mr Clinton's decision—and that Iraq will protest it. Iraq is on weak grounds, to say the least. Since the defeat of its takeover of Kuwait more than two years ago, the Baghdad regime has continued to refuse to enter the world community. It has met each attempt to close its ominous and varied weapons programmes with both hostility and obstruction. Baghdad has also continued to declare its claim to Kuwait, launched aggression against neighbouring Iran, and insisted on the right to use violence against its minorities.

Clearly, when Iraq oversteps the conditions of the peace agreement it signed in February 1991, it must take the consequences. The continuing support of Mr Husayn and his regime for international terrorism cannot go unpunished. Mr Clinton's choice of retaliation is fitting. An attack against the headquarters of the planners of the assassination plot is a clear tit-for-tat punishment. In the event, it also serves as both a warning and a demonstration to Mr Husayn and his supporters. Although Iraq may disappear from the front pages of the world media, Iraq remains a major concern of the international community.

Mr Clinton's strike against Baghdad also cleared up a concern about the first US leader to be elected after the end of the cold war. The attack on the Mukhabarat indicates the US president will not flinch at the use of force when circumstances dictate. Mr Clinton was criticised for not moving immediately the assassination plot was discovered. Instead he chose to move more carefully, and thus more accurately. This has lent even stronger emphasis to the attack. The Iraqi leadership last year celebrated the election defeat of Mr Bush and entertained thoughts of wooing Mr Clinton. As so often in the past, Mr Husayn was once again wrong. The president of Iraq must stop trying to lie, cheat and attack his way back into the world community. International cooperation would be so much easier. And more fruitful.

NSC Chief on Upcoming Security Talks With U.S.

BK2706020893 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Jun 93 p A3

[Text] NATIONAL Security Council [NSC] chief Charan Kunlawanit said yesterday Washington was contemplating a diminishing role in the Asian region in the post-Cold War era while increasing the role of Japan in partial compensation.

While the US administration views Japan as a potential substitute to balance China in the region, it is still not completely comfortable with an increasing military role for Japan, he said, citing the Japanese mission in Cambodia as an example.

"I believe the United States was not happy with the Japanese mission in Cambodia," Charan said in an exclusive interview with THE NATION. The United States did not send a military mission to Cambodia but it did have military observers as well as civilians working under the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (Untac).

Japan sent about 800 troops under the UN flag after amending its Self Defence Force law which allowed overseas military missions for the first time since the end of World War II.

Charan's comments came on the eve of his visit to Washington to attend the informal consultative forum on regional security between Thailand and the United States.

Since the withdrawal of American troops from Thailand in 1975, after the Vietnam War, the two military allies have not held comprehensive discussions on how to restructure their security ties and defence cooperation.

Charan said the upcoming dialogue with the United States would not be aimed at reviving past military ties.

"What Thailand is trying to do is to express our views on how we see the current regional configuration," Charan said adding that through this dialogue Thailand could help Washington clarify its own regional security aims.

He said US officials had recently discussed with him American fears that China might try to fill the power vacuum left by the US withdrawal of its troops from the region. Other concerns were the effects of the dissolution of the Soviet Union and whether Japan should act as a military counterbalance to China.

Charan classified the US presence in three dimensions—interests, influence and troops. The NSC chief said Thailand could not deny US interests and its influence in the region, but to maintain its protective forces in the area was another factor. He said the benefits of a continued presence of troops should be weighed against the possible negative effects.

Charan said although Thailand had made economic gains due to the US presence in the 1960s and early 1970s, it was US interests that were best served. He said Thailand supported the increasing role of Japan in the region and thought Japan should do much more to help poor nations.

"So far, we see no reason for Japan to revive a strong military role," Charan said, adding that worldwide there was now more concern about economic colonialism than military colonialism.

Protection for U.S. Drug Patents Considered

BK2606144893 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Speaking to reporters about the conflict between Thailand and the United States concerning the pharmaceutical patent and copyright issues, Deputy Commerce Minister Churin Laksanawisit said that it is necessary to make a thorough study on the pros and cons of allowing new U.S. medicines to monopolize the Thai market for a period of seven to ten years. Officials are now gathering information from the Commerce Ministry, Chamber of Commerce, Council of Industries of Thailand, and the Public Health Ministry for the purpose. The International Economic Policy Committee, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak, will convene a meeting to make the decision.

The deputy commerce minister revealed that continuous efforts are being made to suppress copyright violations, adding that a few days ago the Coordination Center for the Prevention and Suppression of Intellectual Property Violations was set up and is being chaired by the director general of the Department of Intellectual Property. A budget of 200 million baht has been set aside for the suppression and prevention of copyright violations while the copyright law is being amended.

No Retroactive Protection Planned

BK2706082193 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 27 Jun 93 p 1

[Excerpt] Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak said that Thailand has never considered giving retroactive protection to pharmaceutical patents as requested by the United States, and the country's stand on this issue is clear. The Thai Government attached significance to the quality and reasonable price of medicines for the benefit of the people.

The deputy prime minister made the above disclosure on 26 June while attending the 12th meeting of the 14 agricultural exporting countries (Cairns Group) at the Shangri-la Hotel in Bangkok. Ministers of the Cairns member countries, namely, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Hungary, Fiji, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Argentina, Brazil, Columbia, Uruguay, and Thailand participated in the conference.

Suphachai said that the government will submit the draft amendment of the Copyright Act to the House of Representatives for consideration in July because Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon has promised the U.S. side that the amendment of the law will be completed before 31 July. [passage omitted]

Ministers: Not All U.S. Copyright Demands Met

BK2806100793 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 28 Jun 93 p 16

[Text] Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon said Thailand did not try to comply with all U.S. demands on copyrights laws. He denied the accusation, saying Thailand has told the United States what it cannot accept. Otherwise, Thailand would stand to suffer from the impact. The minister told newsmen during an interview at the Sirikit National Convention Center on 27 June that he would push for a parliamentary debate of the draft bill on amendments to the copyrights law before the closing of the current session in July.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak, when asked about trade negotiations between Thailand and the United States, said Thailand is now working on the patent protection law and the amendment to the copyrights law, in response to the U.S. requests. The deputy prime minister believed the draft bill on copyrights law will be debated by the parliament soon. However, the patent protection bill will need more study by concerned authorities, including the Public

Health Ministry and the Commerce Ministry, especially on the aspects of monopoly. He said it was impossible for Thailand to comply with all U.S. demands because Thailand must also try to protect local consumers in terms of the quality of the medicine as well as prices. Anyway, Thailand has decided on several measures to be taken which should already satisfy the United States to a certain extent.

Ministry Forms Center To Protect IPR

BK2606092693 Bangkok SIAM POST in Thai
26 Jun 93 p 18

[Text] Deputy Commerce Mininster Churin Laksanawisit says he has ordered the setting up of "The Coordination Center for Prevention and Suppression of Intellectual Property [IPR] Violations." The center is assigned to enforce the regulations issued by the Prime Minister's Office and the Commerce Ministry and the six laws on suppression of copyright violations.

The center will act as a go-between for authorities and agencies concerned in preventing and suppressing the violation of all forms of intellectual property including patents, copyrights, and trade marks. The center is headed by Wararak Chansamat, deputy director general of the Intellectual Property Department.

Cambodian Prince Ranariddh in Bangkok for 'Rest'

BK2606013693 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
26 Jun 93 p 6

[Text] PRINCE Norodom Ranariddh, leader of Cambodia's royalist FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] party, returned from Phnom Penh to Bangkok yesterday for what a Cambodian source said was "a rest".

The prince is expected to head back to Phnom Penh early next week and, as of yesterday, no meetings had been planned while he is in Bangkok.

The list of the interim government, initially due to be announced two days ago, was now expected to be presented to the recently elected national assembly for approval late next week, the source said.

A "last-minute change" affecting postings, not the proportions of power-sharing, has delayed the announcement of the new government.

"For national reconciliation", Prince Ranariddh agreed to the principle of equal powersharing despite FUNCINPEC's holding of 58 seats in the constituent assembly against the CPP's 51, the source said.

Prince Ranariddh returned to Bangkok after announcing in Phnom Penh on Thursday that he and Hun Sen, incumbent prime minister and key man of the Cambodian People's Party (CPP), had "completed the composition of the provisional government".

Prince Ranariddh and Hun Sen are to co-chair the interim government that will be in power until a constitution is promulgated and a permanent administration installed. They are also to share responsibility over the ministries of defence and interior.

Their parties are each to run 10 other ministries. FUNCINPEC's ally, the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party (BLDP) of Former Premier Son Sann, is to take charge of three and the Moulinaka [National Liberation Movement of Kampuchea] Party one.

Government for Including KR in Cambodian Army

BK2706020293 Bangkok THE NATION in English
27 Jun 93 pp A1, A2

[Text] Phatthaya—THAILAND supports the inclusion of the Khmer Rouge [KR] in the national Cambodian army, even though the guerrilla goup is not part of the new interim government, National Security Council chief Gen Charan Kunlawanit said yesterday. Charan said Thailand was strictly adhering to the Paris peace accord which called for self-determination and national reconciliation in Cambodia to help end two decades of civil war.

"Any move by the Cambodian factions that supports these concepts would be ideal for Cambodia," Charan said in an exclusive interview with THE NATION.

"If they negotiate to become part of the army, that will be good," he said in response to a question on the Khmer Rouge's latest decision to return to Phnom Penh following a two-month exile in their zone along the Thai-Cambodian border.

The Khmer Rouge, which vacated its Phnom Penh office on April 13 and did not participate in the UN-brokered general election, has accepted the electoral results as well as the formation of an interim government which excludes them.

Charan said the Khmer Rouge's inclusion in the national army was in line with Thailand's position that military affairs must be separated from the political wing. "They should be united under the national army under Prince Norodom Sihanouk. There will be no peace if one party still keeps forces as a bargaining tool," he said.

Current negotiations between the election-winning Funcinpec [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] party, incumbent Cambodian People's Party (CPP) and Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party have not accepted the inclusion of the Khmer Rouge in the national army.

According to a well-placed source, Phnom Penh demanded that the Khmer Rouge must be disarmed before it could be included. However, the source said the

Khmer Rouge indicated that it would join the national army only when it is represented in the new government, otherwise, they preferred to stay outside as an armed group.

"It is a long process before the Khmer Rouge joins the army," the source said.

In his response to the Khmer Rouge's request to return to Phnom Penh, Sihanouk suggested that leader Khieu Samphan return in September when he will also return from his two-month leave in Pyongyang and Beijing, to begin on July 12.

Funcinpec, which defeated the CPP, 58 seats to 51, supports the Khmer Rouge's inclusion in national reconciliation.

Meanwhile, Charan also criticized as outdated the idea held by "certain groups" to drive the Khmer Rouge into the jungle and allow foreign troops to crush them. He likened the idea to the introduction of foreign troops into Vietnam to crush the Viet Cong. The failure by the US-lead forces to wipe out communist Vietnam also left Thailand in direct confrontation with Vietnam, he said.

He said Thailand does not want to see this historical mistake repeat itself in the case of the Khmer Rouge.

His comments came as he was about to leave for Washington to attend the first bilateral consultative forum between Thailand and the United States on the post-Cold War regional situation and bilateral defence and security cooperation.

Last week, Washington softened its position on the Khmer Rouge, saying it would not interfere with the will of the Cambodian people regarding the form and composition of their government. This followed a strong reaction from Thailand after Washington recently pressed Thailand to close the gaps along its eastern border with Khmer Rouge-held zones in Cambodia and said it would oppose a future Cambodian government that included the Khmer Rouge.

Prasong Says Cambodian Conflict To Be Settled

BK2706084793 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 27 Jun 93 p 16

[Text] Speaking to reporters in Phatthaya on 26 June, Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri disclosed that Khmer Rouge leader Kheiu Samphan is scheduled to return to Phnom Penn and meet with Prince Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the National Supreme Council of Cambodia, in September after the latter returns from a visit to China and South Korea.

The foreign minister noted that the formation of an interim government with Prince Norodom Ranariddh, leader of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party and Hun Sen, prime minister of the Phnom Penh regime and leader of the Cambodian People's Party, sharing the premiership will help settle the political conflict in Cambodia. Three months after the drafting of a constitution, a new Cambodian Government will be formed with one prime minister, as normal.

The foreign minister said he personally believed that it is the best thing to have the Khmer Rouge included in the new Cambodian Government.

On the same occasion, the foreign minister revealed that a Thai delegation comprising officials from the Foreign Ministry, National Security Council, Defense Ministry, National Intelligence Office will be sent to hold talks with the U.S. counterpart on the Thai-U.S. bilateral cooperation at the regional level. Pracha Khunnakasem, permanent secretary for foreign affairs, will lead the officials from the Foreign Ministry during the negotiations which will touch on cooperation in economic, administrative, and environment areas, adding that military cooperation will not be raised for discussion because all ASEAN countries believe that military threat no longer exists.

UN Praises Thai Engineers' Work in Cambodia

BK2706075493 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Thai military engineers working to help reconstruct Cambodia are praised by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR]. Chief of the Army Technical Service Engineer Department Lieutenant General Narunat Kampanatsaenyakon says the Royal Thai Army has sent two battalions of military engineers to help demining and repairing roads in Cambodia since February 1992. The two roads have been completely repaired from Poipet to Sisophon and from Sisophon to Siem Reap.

Lieutenant General Narunat says the UNHCR and the Cambodian government praise Thai soldiers for their work and devotion. Besides repairing the roads, Thai military engineers have also built three schools in Cambodia, constructed a concrete bridge, an airport, and other infrastructure. They have also treated patients and helped Cambodians with their necessary activities.

Lieutenant General Narunat says Thai soldiers have been safe despite the fighting because they are friendly with all Cambodian factions. Thai military engineers will remain in Cambodia until all tasks are completed.

Commentary Views Enforcement of Human Rights

BK2706025093 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Jun 93 p A10

[Commentary by Witit Muntaphon, contributing editor: "Enforcement of human rights through pressure"]

[Text] There is one truism facing the issue of monitoring and enforcement of human rights; it is often weak, tardy and inaccessible to those who matter. While genuine sanctions can arise from the Security Council of the United Nations, the main human rights systems dealt with below tend to work upon the basis of pressure through monitoring, exposure and peer group influence rather than punitive sanctions.

Basically the multilateral system is blessed with two means for this process. First, that ensuing from the general mandate of the United Nations, particularly through the various mechanisms established by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. Second, that established by specific human rights treaties, e.g. the Human Rights Committee set up by the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. While the latter implies the prerequisite of consent on the part of the acceding State, for the most part the former operates irrespective of consent; the authority to interact on human rights issues emanates from the mandate of the United Nations itself.

A number of mechanisms have been established by the UN Commission on Human Rights. These include various working groups, special rapporteurs and experts who undertake investigative functions and exert pressure on States to change their behaviour. Various urgent action procedures also facilitate fast interaction with governments where there are impending threats to human rights.

The system works competently to some extent and many lives have been saved. There is also the confidential procedure known as the 1503 whereby groups and individuals can seek the assistance of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies in the case of a pattern of gross human rights violations. This has led to a degree of protection, particularly for victims of human rights violations in the political field.

However, the system attached to the Commission suffers from a variety of weaknesses including the following:

—overload of complaints and incapacity of the system to respond quickly and efficaciously

—proliferation of mechanisms and insufficiency of support facilities

—bureaucratization and politicization

—inadequate pressure for local implementation of universal standards and lack of real sanctions

—too much centralization—the Commission itself always meets in Geneva, whereas it should decentralize itself to different regions of the world and become more mobile

—too remedial an approach and not enough strategies and resources to deal with prevention of problems

—insufficiency of access by the Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) of developing countries, the current accreditation process for NGOs to be able to appear at the Commission tends to favour the NGOs of developed countries

—overlap between many mandates and insufficient coordination and sharing of information and resources.

One of the key targets of the World Conference on Human Rights was to overcome many of these difficulties. A major constraint is the very low budget allocated to the UN Centre for Human Rights which services the Commission and the treaty bodies referred to below. The major challenge at the World Conference was how to maximise resources for the servicing of these mechanisms as well as how to coordinate mandates to prevent duplication. For the future, one can also envisage greater decentralisation of the Commission with the possibility of regional sessions.

On the other front, a variety of specific treaties exists to protect human rights, the most fundamental being the 1966 Human Rights Covenants. The procedure for monitoring usually consists of establishment of an international committee which receives periodic country reports from State parties. Some procedures for inter-State complaints are available but these are underused. Some access is provided to individuals to lodge complaints against State parties, but these depend again upon specific consent by the State parties.

The key treaties which provide for individual access include the 1966 and 1990 Optional Protocols to the Covenant on Civil and Political rights, the 1965 International Convention on the Elimination of Racial International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and the 1984 Convention against Torture.

The comments and queries of the committees indicate areas of concern for reform at the national and local levels. Although these committees do not have adjudicatory powers with the ability to render binding decisions, their recommendations are more than persuasive. With international exposure and coverage by the mass media, the recommendations can have impact akin to quasi-binding decisions. In practice, governments have often abided by them for fear of further international criticism.

However, this system which is based upon consent and accession by States suffers from a number of pitfalls as follow :

—paucity of accession particularly by Asian countries

—many reservations entered at the time of accession

—poor implementation at the national and local levels

—lack of access by individuals to several committees established by international treaties, e.g. the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and the Convention on the Rights of the Child

—delayed reports from State parties and incomplete information

—at times too legalistic presentations in the reports and not enough data, statistics and cases

—insufficient popular participation in the preparation of country reports

—failure of governments to disseminate their reports and the comments of the monitoring committee to a broad national public

—overlap between various committees established by the treaties, e.g. the work of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights overlaps with the CEDAW Committee

—not enough access to alternative sources of information, especially from the non-governmental sector

—insufficient data collection and compilation by states on the one hand, and by the committees established by the treaties, on the other hand.

These difficulties have thus led to the call for improvements among the existing systems as well as the possibility of more innovative mechanisms dealt with at the end of this study. To an extent, some of the difficulties of monitoring and enforcement can be attenuated by the establishment of regional and national mechanisms.

Foreign Minister Outlines Regional Policy

BK2606074493 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Thailand's foreign policy places the first priority to bilateral relations with neighboring countries. The statement was made by Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri in his speech on Thailand's foreign policy and regional cooperation delivered at Phatthaya beach resort yesterday.

The foreign minister said that Thailand has been making attempts to cooperate more with Indochinese countries and Myanmar [Burma] in enhancing their living conditions. He said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs plans to set up a Thai center in Indochina and Myanmar [Burma] to create better understanding about Thailand among these neighbors. The foreign minister said the Thai center should serve as a venue for cultural exchange, Thai language study, and information. The center should offer scholarships to neighboring countries and also serve as a library. It will be set up in the capitals of Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Myanmar. The foreign minister said the center will be a non-profit organization aimed at providing aid to these different countries.

Vietnam

Reports on National Assembly Meetings Continue

Draft Law on Publication Debated

BK2606091193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 22 Jun 93

[Report by station correspondent Thanh Thuy on the views contributed by National Assembly deputies to the draft law on publication at the 22 June plenary meeting of the National Assembly's third session—portions recorded]

[Summary] Dear friend: At the debate on the draft publication law, most of the views expressed by National Assembly deputies were unanimously in agreement with the government's report on the need to have a law on publication at an early date. In recent years, publication work in our country has not yet been put onto the right track and has encountered difficulties in many aspects. This is due to our failure to promptly promulgate a law on publication to meet the needs arising from the renovation process. Presenting a general view on publication work, Deputy Ca Le Thuan from Ben Tre said:

[Begin Ca Le Thuan recording] "It should be noted that the scope for amendment of the publication law this time is more ample, which makes the brother intellectuals, writers, and artists very happy. As you comrades may know, the issue of publication now not only involves paper but also involves magnetic tape, electric wire, video tape, and video disks. This is a matter of great necessity that has been included in law." Therefore, we suggest that in the long process of debate the Ministry of Culture and Information should go ahead to prepare more drafts for this law. [end recording]

Based on the aforementioned view, Deputy Vu Tu Nam from Nam Ha said:

[Begin Vu Tu Nam recording] "We realize that the publication law has come into being a little late. However, we feel that the promulgation of this law is timely and very necessary, as it will help prevent and diminish negative phenomena in our publication activities on the one hand and create favorable conditions for more healthy and interesting publications on the other hand." The law will also encourage talented authors to make satisfactory contributions and develop their works. Meanwhile, we consider the prime minister's decision No. 25 as a manifestation of our state's interest in encouraging publication work. [end recording]

Discussing the need to publish books with valuable contents in support of national construction and defense, Deputy Phan Quang from Thai Binh said:

[Begin Phan Quang recording] "I think that the examination, amendment, and adoption of the draft law on publication by the National Assembly this time will substantially benefit the tasks of promoting publication work and restoring order in a certain number of domains, including printing, distribution, and, especially, publishing." I agree with the scope of amendment of this law. However, I would like to state further that many deputies in my group note that in the part dealing with printing in this law, amendments have only been made to matters relating to national defense. "In fact, printing management is even more complicated. So far, the Ministry of Culture and Information has only enforced a regulation on the printing service, which is not a law-binding document. We need a more authoritative document—at least a government decree—on matters relating to the printing service." [end recording]

In the debate, private publication is one of the issues that has absorbed the interest and inspired the views of many deputies. Most of the deputies definitely affirm the need not to allow the setting up of private publishing houses. Regarding this issue, Deputy Le Khac Binh from Ho Chi Minh city said:

[Begin Le Khac Binh recording] "We support the bill not to allow the private sector to set up publishing houses. The real state of publication activities in Ho Chi Minh city has revealed an urgent need to quickly resolve the disorderly and negative situation resulting from the decision to allow the private sector to exert control over the publishing domain. This decision has led to the publishing of some immoral and harmful works that have been harshly criticized by the public." Coming into being most recently has been the book entitled 'Rebellion,' which contains many harmful factors in terms of culture and ideology.

"Hostile forces and bad elements take advantage of this state of disorder, together with weaknesses in state management over publication activities, to fiercely oppose and undermine our country. We hold that due to the present political, social, and economic situation in our country and the world, our publishing activities must be carried out in such a way as to directly support the party's political work, as well as to serve as a tool of the party and state in countering the schemes of peaceful evolution of the hostile forces on the cultural and ideological front."

We suggest that, together with investment, suitable mechanisms and policies should be formulated to enable authors and publishing houses to turn out good works, as well as to prevent the private sector from using money to exert control over publishing houses. [end recording]

Referring to the distribution of books, newspapers, and other cultural materials to the people of various nationalities in the mountainous regions, Deputy Mua Thi My from Lai Chau said:

[Begin Mua thi My recording] As ethnic minority people, when reading through the draft law on publication, we are very happy to note in item 3 of Article 27 that the state has the responsibility of ensuring that publications are distributed to the areas inhabited by the people of various ethnic minority groups, as well as to mountainous regions and off-shore islands. [end recording]

"Also in this morning meeting, before the National Assembly deputies held their debate, National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh announced the results achieved by the delegation of Vietnamese athletes at the 17th Sea Games and welcomed the many fine successes recorded by these athletes."

Tomorrow, the National Assembly will continue its work at the conference hall.

More Debate on Draft Laws 23 Jun

BK2506140993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 23 Jun 93

[Station correspondent Hoai Thu's report on the 23 June National Assembly proceedings—portions recorded]

[Summary] "Today, 23 June, is the seventh day of the National Assembly. The deputies worked in the conference hall to debate the draft bill on amendments or supplements to a number of tax laws. National Assembly Vice Chairman Nguyen Ha Phan directed the session.

"Generally speaking, the deputies concurred with the need to amend or supplement a number of tax laws to make them consistent with the real situation at present, especially to do away with irrational tax computation criteria and tax rates, as well as with the lack of serious implementation of tax laws.

"Tran Thi Bach Tuyet, deputy from Dong Nai Province; Pham Ngoc Quang, deputy from Thanh Hoa Province; and Nguyen Minh Thanh, deputy from Ho Chi Minh City, suggested that while doing tax computations, one must take into account the fact that at present, teaching aids for teachers and school supplies for students are subjected to heavy taxes, thus adversely affecting the quality of teaching and learning activities."

Regarding the above-mentioned issue, Deputy Tran Thi Bach Tuyet had a proposal:

[Begin Tran Thi Bach Tuyet recording] We would like to request that the National Assembly give commercial tax exemption to teaching aids and school supplies by abolishing the 1.00 percent tax rate applied to teaching aids and school supplies in Section 23 of the commercial tax table. [end recording]

In dealing with tax evasion and tax fraud, which has reached an alarming level due to low tax rates and lax control, Nguyen Trong Khanh, deputy from Vinh Phu Province, said that at present, cross-border trading activities involve not only people living along the various border gates but also state agencies and private dealers nationwide. He also pointed out the poor quality of tax officials in charge at the various border gates and complained that this shortcoming is a contributive factor to the current practice of tax evasion and tax fraud. He concluded by saying:

[Begin Nguyen Trong Khanh recording] To put an end to this unhealthy situation, we would like to request that the National Assembly work out measures to end cross-border trading of small goods and include this business activity in the import-export tax table. [end recording]

As for Vo Nguyen Quang, deputy from Thua Thien-Hue Province, dumping of foreign products on the home market has caused great difficulties to local goods production and consumption. Deputy Quang suggested that to stimulate local production steps must be taken to give tax reductions to fine arts production, electronics assembly, rice husking, animal feed processing, and fishing net weaving.

To stimulate production and generate more state revenues, Doan Duc Tam, deputy from Ha Bac Province, suggested the following measures:

[Begin Doan Duc Tam recording] I would like to suggest some bold measures as follows: Let the state review management patterns for state-run business establishments and adopt positive measures to bring into play their potential and create favorable conditions for them to take the initiative in promoting production and business operations within the bounds of law, thus positively contributing to generating more revenues for the state budget. [end recording]

According to Truong Thuy Khue, a woman deputy from Quang Tri Province, once correct tax laws have been promulgated, it is of great importance to guarantee strict implementation. She said:

[Begin Truong Thuy Khue recording] As you all know, the next step following the endorsement of amendments or supplements to the various tax laws would be to adopt appropriate measures to guarantee strict implementation to achieve set goals. [end recording]

"In today's sesion, the deputies all expressed the hope that the National Assembly would pass the draft bill on amendments or supplements to a number of tax laws at an early date, as well as give adequate direction for implementation to guarantee fairness for all tax payers, increase state revenues, and secure strict implementation of all tax laws.

"Due to the time limit, only 32 deputies had the opportunity to express their views at the plenary session. A number of deputies who could not do so have sent their suggestions to the committee for making amendments or supplements to a number of tax laws.

"Tomorrow, 24 June, the National Assembly will continue to meet in plenary session in the conference hall."

Power, Order Draft Law Discussed

BK2606142993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 24 Jun 93

[Report by station correspondent Ngoc Ky on the 24 June Ninth National Assembly Third Session proceedings—portions recorded]

[Summary] "Dear friends, today, 24 June, is the eighth day of the Ninth National Assembly Third Session. In the morning, the deputies held a plenary sitting in the Conference Hall to discuss the draft law on power and order in the promulgation of legal documents under the direction of National Assembly Vice Chairman Phung Van Tuu.

"Before the deputies started their discussion, Justice Minister Nguyen Dinh Loc read a report on views contributed by the deputies at their group discussion on the draft law. The report presented the views on the name of the draft law and the concept on the definition of legal documents. It also mentioned different opinions arising from the deputies' group discussions.

"Then the deputies discussed the content of the draft law. Most were of the opinion that, given the requirement of the renovation, the introduction of such a law is necessary and urgent in order to regulate the promulgation of legal documents, ensure the quality and efficiency of legal documents, and strengthen the socialist legislation and the construction of a Vietnamese law-governed state.

"Regarding the name of the draft law, many opinions expressed viewed it as too long and not easy to understand and remember. It should be given a shorter and more meaningful way. They suggested changing the name to: the law on the promulgation of legal documents."

The deputies also suggested supplementing a concept on the definition of legal documents to the draft law so that legal documents can be differentiated from other documents. On the issue of enhancing the efficiency of legal documents to bring laws into life, Deputy Le Duc Binh from Ninh Binh Province said:

[Begin Le Duc Binh recording] The explanation of the laws is difficult and mistakable, leading to different understanding and implementation of the laws. The constitution stipulates that the National Assembly Standing Committee is entrusted with the duty of explaining the law. However, the government law enforcement agencies have performed both the tasks of law explanation and implementation. I think this is wrong. The implementation and explanation of the law are two different tasks. The right to law explanation must belong to the National Assembly Standing Committee, which promulgates the laws. In order to put an end to different understanding of the law, which will lead to different implementation of the law, in this law, we must stipulate an article about the explanation of the law.

The National Assembly should also follow the implementation of the laws. Therefore, every year, the government must report to the National Assembly on the implementation of laws and regulations issued in that year. [end recording]

Also on this issue, Deputy Nguyen Viet Dung of Ha Bac Province said:

[Begin Nguyen Viet Dung Recording] I agreed that we have to differentiate between laws from sub-law documents. At the moment, the public holds that the laws and regulations have not been strictly implemented. Consequently, the supervision to ensure a strict implementation of the law is very important and urgent. Therefore, in this draft law we must pay attention to the supervision of the implementation of all the laws. [end recording]

The deputies voiced their support of the draft bill on issues concerning the construction and promulgation of legal documents, the government's duty in organizing and providing guidance on the construction of legal documents, and the role of law building agencies and sectors in the construction and promulgation of legal documents. Deputy Bui Huu Hai of Vinh Phu Province shared his opinions on some articles of the draft law:

[Begin Bui Huu Hai recording] In Article Two, I suggested that any government decision must be approved by the majority of the committee. But chairman of the committee can issue directives. Article Four on the revision and supplement of legal documents is very well written. However, we found in our group discussion that it is very difficult to execute. [end recording]

Regarding the promulgation of legal documents by mass organizations, the deputies suggested that social organizations must not allow the introducion of legal documents because the mass organizations mainly use the method of public motivation. On this issue, Deputy Tran Du Lich of Ho Chi Minh City said:

[Begin Tran Du Lich recording] I suggest that circulars of government organs and mass organizations are not considered legal documents because those circulars are aimed at directing, educating, and motivating the implementation of government policy. [end recording]

"Together with opinions contributed to the chapters and articles of the draft law, many deputies expressed their views on the writing style and language of the draft law.

"Sixteen deputies spoke in this morning's sitting on the draft law. They unanimously agreed to grant the government more time to prepare for the draft law and the National Assembly Standing Committee more time to decide on the content of the draft law.

"In the afternoon, the National Assembly continued its plenary sitting in the Conference Hall under the direction of Chairman Nong Duc Manh. It heard Nguyen Cong Tan, minister of agriculture and food industry, on behalf of the government, present a report on the draft bill on amendments to the law on land and a report on agriculture land use tax. Ha Manh Tri, chairman of the National Assembly Judiciary Committee presented an investigative report on the draft bill on amendments to the law on land. Nguyen Thanh Phong, deputy chairman of the National Assembly Economics and Budget Committee presented an investigative report on the draft bill on the agriculture land use tax.

"By the end of the afternoon sitting, Do Quoc Sam, minister for state planning, on behalf of the government, presented a investigative report on the draft bill on state enterprises. Mai Thuc Lan, chairman of the National Assembly Economics and Budget Committee presented the committee's views on the draft bill on state enterprises. Tomorrow, the National Assembly will continue the plenary sitting in the Conference Hall."

More on 25 Jun Proceedings

BK2506123393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] This morning, 25 June, the Ninth National Assembly held a plenary sitting at the conference hall under the chairmanship of National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh.

National Assembly deputies heard Do Quoc Sam, minister and chairman of the State Planning Commission, on behalf of the government, delivered a report on the draft law on bankruptcy of business establishments. Ly Tai Luan, deputy chairman of the National Assembly's Economic and Budget Committee, delivered a report on the committee's viewpoints on this draft law.

Afterward, Vu Mao, member of the National Assembly Standing Committee, on behalf of his committee, delivered a report on the draft law on work procedures of National Assembly deputies and delegations. National Assembly Vice Chairman Phung Van Tuu, on behalf of the National Assembly Standing Committee, delivered a report on the draft law on work procedure of the National Assembly Standing Committee. National Assembly Vice Chairman Dang Quan Thuy, on behalf of the National Assembly Standing Committee, delivered a report on the draft law on work procedure of the Nationalities Council and other National Assembly Committees. Vice Chairman Phung Van Tuu, on behalf of the National Assembly Standing Committee, delivered a report on revision and supplementing of the 1993 program for legislative work.

At the end of this morning session, National Assembly Vice Chairman Dang Quan Thuy, on behalf of the National Assembly Standing Committee, delivered a report on the election of more members to several National Assembly Committees.

In the afternoon, National Assembly deputies held group discussions on different issues concerning the draft bill on amendments to the law on land, namely, all-people ownership of land, ways to determine land prices, how long a tenant may use land, classification of agricultural land, rights of land users, and land funds reserved for each locality.

Tomorrow, 26 June, the deputies will continue group discussions on the draft bill on amendments to the law on land.

Assembly Issues Communique No. 6

BK2506153393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Jun 93

["Communique No. 6 of the Ninth National Assembly's Third Session"]

[Text] On the morning of 25 June the National Assembly continued to meet in plenary session in the conference hall under the direction of National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh. The National Assembly heard the following:

—Minister Do Quoc Sam, director of the State Planning Commission, on behalf of the government, delivered a report on the draft law on business bankruptcy;

—Ly Tai Luan, deputy director of the National Assembly's Economic and Budget Committee, expressed the committee's views on the draft law on business bankruptcy;

—Vu Mao, member of the National Assembly's Standing Committee, delivered the committee's report on the work procedures of National Assembly deputies and delegations;

—National Assembly Vice Chairman Phung Van Tuu, on behalf of the National Assembly's Standing Committee, delivered a report on the draft law on work procedures of the National Assembly's Standing Committee;

—National Assembly Vice Chairman Dang Quan Thuy, on behalf of the National Assembly's Standing Committee, delivered a report on the draft laws on work procedures of the National Assembly's Nationalities Committee and other National Assembly committees;

—National Assembly Vice Chairman Phung Van Tuu, on behalf of the National Assembly's Standing Committee, delivered a report on amendments or supplements to the 1993 legislative work program; and

—National Assembly Vice Chairman Dang Quan Thuy, on behalf of the National Assembly's Standing Committee, delivered a report on the appointment of additional personnel to a number of National Assembly committees.

In the afternoon the deputies held group debates on amendments to the draft law on land and the draft law on agricultural land use.

Tomorrow, 26 June, the National Assembly will continue group debates on the draft bill on amendments to the law on agricultural land use.

26 Jun Morning Proceedings

BK2606073493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] This morning the National Assembly deputies continued their group discussions on the draft of the revised land law. These discussions were focused on four issues, namely, the state agency responsible for land management, the terms of land use, land classification, and the village land fund.

Regarding the state agency responsible for land management, many deputies suggested that a state agency should be set up for land management from the central to local levels. Regarding law, the deputies pointed out the need to clearly specify the functions and duties of this agency to avoid the present situation in some localities where urban land is controlled by the construction service and agricultural land is controlled by the land management committee. Some deputies suggested that cadres for the village cadastral office should be employed on a full-time and long-term basis.

Regarding the terms of land use, many groups of deputies from the Mekong River delta provinces suggested that land should be turned over at one time to peasants for long-term use. Nevertheless, many deputies from the central, north, and central highland provinces subscribed to the 20-year term and 50-year term for two types of land. Many deputies also suggested that land classification should be determined on the basis of the area of land in each region, or each type of land. For instance, cultivated land for two rice crops per year could be two to three hectares and cultivated land for one rice crop per year could be three to five hectares.

There were many different views regarding the village land fund. One group of deputies agreed to leave 5 percent of the land fund to a village while another group suggested that this 5-percent land fund should be scrapped because it could easily lead to negativism and a state of disorder. However, some of the deputies suggested that the land fund for a locality be increased by 10 percent because it would have to be used for many purposes.

This is a very important draft law that has been followed with ardent interest by all the people. Therefore, in their group discussions, the deputies should make a careful calculation of every phrase and every word, striving to honestly reflect the people's aspirations as well as to find the most suitable methods. Despite their conflicting views over various details, all deputies unanimously maintain that since land constitutes a complex issue, it is necessary not to raise the issues that have already been resolved and acknowledged, especially when it comes to discussing the right of land ownership.

Further on 26 Jun Proceedings

BK2606121593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Today is the tenth day of the Ninth National Assembly Third Session. In the morning and afternoon, the National Assembly deputies held group discussions on the draft of the revised land law. The discussions were focused on four issues, namely, the state agency responsible for land management, the terms of land use, land classification, and the village land fund.

Regarding the state agency responsible for land management, many deputies suggested that a state agency should be set up for land management from the central to local levels. Regarding the law, the deputies pointed out the need to clearly specify the functions and duties of this agency to avoid the present situation in some localities where urban land is controlled by the construction service and agricultural land is controlled by the land management committee. Some deputies suggested that cadres for the village cadastral office should be employed on a full-time and long-term basis.

Regarding the terms of land use, many groups of deputies from the Mekong River delta provinces suggested that land should be turned over at one time to peasants for long-term use. Nevertheless, many deputies from the central, north, and central highland provinces subscribed to the 20-year term and 50-year term for two types of land. Many deputies also suggested that land classification should be determined on the basis of the area of land in each region, or each type of land. For instance, cultivated land for two rice crops per year could be two to three hectares and cultivated land for one rice crop per year could be three to five hectares.

There were many different views regarding the village land fund. One group of deputies agreed to leave 5 percent of the land fund to a village while another group suggested that this 5-percent land fund should be scrapped because it could easily lead to negativism and a state of disorder. However, some of the deputies suggested that the land fund for a locality be increased by 10 percent because it would have to be used for many purposes.

28 Jun Morning Proceedings

BK2806072193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Today, 28 June, the National Assembly deputies held group debates on the draft law on state-run business establishments. According to our Voice of Vietnam correspondents, the deputies unanimously agreed that given the current situation, it is necessary to promulgate the law on business establishments. They also focused on the definition of state-run business establishments.

There were differing views on whether or not the right to ownership and the right to ownership representation should be given to the prime minister, heads of the ministries concerned, chairmen of the people's committees involved, the Ministry of Finance, or the State Planning Commission. Some deputies maintained that those rights should be given to directors of business establishments.

Regarding the boards of management, the majority of deputies saw no need for such bodies to exist. Therefore, they recommended that all articles related to this issue be abolished.

Regarding the party's leadership over state-run business establishments, many deputies pointed out that despite the fact that state-run business establishments operate under the market mechanism, party committees still need to consolidate their organizations and firmly maintain their leading roles. The deputies also stressed the need for trade union organizations to maintain their activities and join hands with the administration in accelerating production and in looking after the well-being of cadres and office and manual workers.

Aside from their practical suggestions to a number of chapters and articles, some deputies recommended that the draft law be presented in such a way as to make it shorter, simpler, and more concise.

This afternoon, the deputies will continue to hold group debates on the draft law on business bankruptcy.

U.S. NGO Conference Delegates Urge Normal Ties

BK2606143093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Many delegates to the World Forum of the Nationwide Conference of the American Non-Governmental Organizations [NGO] have signed a letter to send to President Bill Clinton requesting him to lift the embargo against Vietnam and to normalise relations. Here is our radio editor's opinion on the issue:

Highlights of the conference this time were humanitarian aid, education exchange, and individual investment in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. The conference was held at Arlington, in the American State of Virginia, from 17-20 June. Four hundred delegates came from 1,200 organizations in America and Canada. It was the biggest conference of its kind ever held in the United States.

During four working days, the conference heard reports on current relations between the two countries, and on Vietnam's cooperation in the settlement on the MIA/POW issue. It also heard a report on the results of the recent election in Cambodia, and non-governmental organization activities in the three Indochinese countries in 1992.

The range of participants were representatives from the foreign department, the (?culture) department, the Agriculture Department, the aid development agency, and the high commissioner for refugees. These people presented U.S. point of view towards the three Indochinese countries.

The conference discussed how best to enhance the effectiveness of the aid to Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, particularly in the field of humanitarian aid, education, health service, development, and investment.

In the letter sent to President Clinton, many delegates demanded the Washington Administration to agree to international loan for Vietnam, and the setting up of a diplomatic liaison office with Vietnam. This opinion has been shared by many other Americans including senators, businessmen, bureaucrats. Many world leaders like French President Francois Mitterrand, German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, and Belgian Foreign Minister

Willy Klaes had stated during their visits to Vietnam that the U.S. embargo against Vietnam is outdated.

Vo Van Kiet Continues Visit to France

French Economic Ties Viewed

BK2606092093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 23 Jun 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] France and Vietnam are enjoying close relations following the February visit to Vietnam by President Francois Mitterrand. France is the first Western country to resume its aid to Vietnam, and to help Vietnam improve the relations with the European Community.

France is Vietnam's biggest trading partner of West European countries, with a trade turnover in 1992 of $180 million. At present, France has invested in over 200 projects, and ranks third among foreign investors in Vietnam. France has also decided to redouble its aid to Vietnam in 1993 to over $60 million. The French ambassador to Vietnam said that the figure will soon be increased to $65 million. The French Government will set up a development fund in Vietnam.

Before leaving for France, Premier Vo Van Kiet said that Vietnam hopes Western European countries will further understand Vietnam and assist Vietnam to develop the economy. In an interview with a correspondent of the LABOR [LAO DONG] paper, the French Ambassador said: The premier's visit will promote relations between the two countries, and this visit is also an opportunity for France to propose a number of cooperative projects with Vietnam.

Meets With Business Leaders

BK2506154393 Hanoi VNA in English 1509 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 25—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet on the evening of June 24 had a working meeting with French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe who later gave a grand banquet in honour of the Vietnamese prime minister and his party.

Earlier, in the afternoon of the same day, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet called on Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet also received a number of French ministers and leaders of major French companies such as Alcatel Total, Air France and CGE [expansion unknown].

In the morning of June 25, P.M. Vo Van Kiet met with more than 250 representatives of French business circles.

Visit Generates Business Interest

BK2606094893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] France is the first leg of the West European tour. It is the first visit made by a Vietnamese prime minister in 20 years. The visit takes place just barely four months after the Vietnam visit by French President Francois Mitterrand.

The visit is a manifestation of the close relations between the two countries. Vietnam and France are cooperating in different fields including politics, economics, culture, and society. French business has paid much attention to the Vietnam market. As soon as Mr. Kiet arrived in Paris, President of the Alcatel Industry and Telecommunication Group, Mr. (Schouard), paid a courtesy visit and held talks with the prime minister. Mr. Kiet requested the group speed up the scope and scale of work that it has signed with Vietnam, to help Vietnam develop its posts and communication system, and to invest in upgrading the railway network. Mr. (Schouard) welcomed and accepted the proposal. He said: French businessmen highly appreciated Mr. Kiet's visit.

The French paper (ECHO) also said that Mr. Kiet's visit will help to encourage French companies to invest in Vietnam, and real competition will begin when Vietnam reintegrates into the world community.

Received by President Mitterrand

BK2506153193 Hanoi VNA in English 1507 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 25—French President Francois Mitterrand received in Paris at noon today Prime Minister Vo Van kiet on a current visit to France:

Present on the occasion were French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, and French Ambassador to Vietnam Jean Francois Nougarede.

On the Vietnamese side were Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and Ambassador Trinh Ngoc Thai.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet conveyed to the French president the regards of party Secretary General Do Muoi, President Le Duc Anh and Advisor Pham Van Dong.

He informed the president of the results of his talks with Prime Minister Edouard Balladur and other French officials.

The prime minister expressed his pleasure at the satisfactory results of his visit this time as can be seen in the identity of views of both sides on the need to strengthen the friendship and expand cooperation in all fields.

P.M. Vo Van Kiet praised the French Government's consistent policy and determination to bring Franco-Vietnamese relations to a new step of development proportion to the potentials and aspiration of the people in each country and in the interests of peace, stability and development in the region and elsewhere in the world.

He also expressed his belief that with the time-honoured traditional friendship, after this visit, the Vietnamese-French relations will usher in a new page on the basis of not only the interests of the two countries, but also the specific historical and cultural roots of the two nations.

President Mitterrand recalled the fine memories of his official visit to Vietnam early this year and expressed his pleasure at the Vietnamese prime minister's visit to France. President Mitterrand said that history has bound Vietnam to France because now is the best time for the two countries to begin a new period of cooperation, not only in economy and trade but also in culture, science, technology and languages. President F. Mitterrand welcomed and highly appreciated Vietnam's activities in the community of French-speaking countries. He reaffirmed that the French Government will help Vietnam to develop the teaching and learning of French. President F. Mitterrand praised Vietnam's achievements in renovation, stressing that the great economic potentials of Vietnam are spurring investment possibilities of French businesses. He affirmed that with the results of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's visit, Franco-Vietnamese cooperative relations will make new steps full of promises. The French Government undertakes to best implement all the commitments between the French president and the Vietnamese leaders early this year.

President F. Mitterrand asked Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet to convey his best greetings to party General Secretary Do Muoi, President Le Duc Anh, Advisor Pham Van Dong and other Vietnamese leaders.

More Activities, Meetings Reported

BK2706132593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Telephone report by Station Correspondent Dinh Khai on Vo Van Kiet-led government delegation's activities in France—portions recorded]

[Summary] "Dear friends, the official visit to the Republic of France by the Vietnamese Government delegation led by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet from 23 June is considered an especially important event in Franco-Vietnamese relations. There were solemn ceremonies reserved for the prime minister. But it seems that the two sides have been paying more attention to issues which will be discussed during the visit. The work schedule of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and other members of the delegation has been very tight everyday.

"Right in the afternoon after his arrival in Paris, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet held talks with Mr. (Schouard), general director of the Alcatel Group. The following day, 24 June, he met French National Assembly Chairman (Chouille) [as heard]; Paris Mayor Chirac; Prime Minister Balladur; Bernard Bosson, minister of equipment, transport, and tourism; and Gerard Longuet, minister of industry, post, and telecommunication."

In those meetings, the two sides paid particular attention to Franco-Vietnamese relations, especially the current economic cooperation. In a reception given to the visiting prime minister, Prime Minister Balladur said that "the Vietnamese renovation with its market-oriented economy has scored many achievements in the past. That is a good foundation for the cooperation between the two countries. France is always on Vietnam's side and it will help Vietnam to develop".

In the 25 June morning, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet met more than 250 French businessmen in Paris. In this meeting, Mr. (Otterley), president of the Total Company and vice chairman of the French Business Council, confirmed the French entrepreneurs' interest in cooperation and investment in Vietnam. He said:

[Begin (Otterley) recording in French fading into Vietnamese translation] Please let me emphasize Vietnam's progress which has encouraged us to invest there. They are the issuance of visas for foreigners, the stability of the Vietnamese currency against the U.S. dollar, freedom of currency exchange, favorable conditions for the movement of foreigners, and the improvement and revision of the Foreign Investment Law. The investment of overseas Vietnamese is increasing. That proves that they believe in your country's future. And it attracts a great deal of investment from other investors. [end recording]

In the meeting with 250 French entrepreneurs, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet said:

[Begin Vo Van Kiet recording] "We have had meetings with Mr. (Chouille) [name as heard], French National Assembly chairman; Paris Mayor Chirac; the minister of equipment, transport, and tourism; the minister of industry, posts, and telecommunications; the foreign minister; many members of the French Government and parliament; and representatives of French business circles. Those meetings have given me a very profound impression about the relations between France and Vietnam. Your presence here today further proves the attention that the French businessmen have given to the further acceleration of the Franco-Vietnamese economic cooperation. [end recording]

"Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet briefed his French friends on the results of the Vietnamese renovation, the difficulties and limitations that need to be overcome in Vietnam, and the potential for French cooperation and investment in Vietnam. Also in this meeting, Minister Dau Ngoc Xuan, chairman of the State Commission for Cooperation and Investment; Finance Minister Ho Te; and many members of the Vietnamese delegation presented issues and areas for cooperation that may be of concern for the French entrepreneurs.

"In an atmosphere of honesty and openness, many French businessmen asked questions on four issues of concern. These are privatization, the management of foreign business activities, business services, and cadres training in Vietnam. All of the questions were answered and clarified by members of the Vietnamese delegation so as to reassure French entrepreneurs about their future investments in Vietnam."

Outside the meeting, we met Mr. (Schouard), general director of the Alcatel Group. He mentioned three major tasks in which his group is involved in Vietnam, namely, investment in the development of the electricity service, upgrading the postal and telecommunications service, and developing the Vietnamese railway service.

Lawyer (Jean Jacques Lecarte), who has been cooperating with Vietnam in the legal field for many years, said:

[Begin (Jean Jacques Lecarte) recording fading into Vietnamese translation] After the France visit of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, we think that, apart from acting as adviser to Vietnam in the legal field, we may be able to create a legal environment in Vietnam and help it strengthen its legal environment. [end recording]

"Dear friends, the official visit to the Republic of France by the Vietnamese Government delegation led by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet will continue until 27 June. Meetings, talks, and visits to French socio-economic establishments promptly fill these five days of the visit."

Through the visit, we will understand more about our French friends and they will also have a chance for better understanding about our country so that we can create the necessary conditions for increasing bilateral cooperation. Isn't that a great result of the visit to the Republic of France this time?

Le Mai's Vienna Speech on Human Rights Viewed

BK2606162693 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 25 Jun 93

[From the "Talk of the Week" feature]

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Le Mai headed the Vietnamese delegation at the World Conference on Human Rights. In his address to the conference, the deputy foreign minister stressed that the struggle for human rights represents something Vietnam holds dearly, as Vietnam is the nation whose several generations have to pay heavy sacrifices for the sake of the country's independence and freedom.

This awareness was a driving force in Vietnam's present process of renovation, a process embodied in a strategy for socioeconomic development for the year 2000, with people as the centerpiece.

He said people were both the motive force and the ultimate goal of all social activities. Human rights also were the driving force behind political reform, for broader and higher democracy. The cornerstone was the endeavor to build a state governed by law, a state for the people, of the people, and by the people.

Mr. Le Mai affirmed that the Vietnamese delegation came to Vienna in full awareness of the important significance of the World Conference on Human Rights, and with the profound committment of the Vietnamese people and state, to the cause of human rights. He said: With the trend toward international and regional dialogue and cooperation in all spheres, human rights have become an object of cooperation and the common concern of the international community. We should also take the full measure of the complexity and sensitivity involved in the concept of human rights. Therefore, we need to keep in mind the basic principles of international laws, and to respect each other's views if we are to engage in a durable dialogue and sustainable cooperation on the issue.

Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai continued: Proceeding from its own historical reality, Vietnam fully understands that the human rights in a given nation is the work of that nation, and that the responsibility for the promotion of human rights in the state rests primarily with that state, as reaffirmed by the United Nations secretary general.

This does not mean a negation of the universality of human rights, but only emphasizes a reality—namely, that the state with a complementary and supervisory role played by popular organizations, is the only entity with the competence to devise appropriate solutions for the protection of human rights. The head of the Vietnamese delegation welcomed the (?initiation) the foreign minister of Indonesia, of the nonaligned-countries division, has spelled out at the tenth summit of the movement, whereby, quote, any attempts to use human rights as the condition for socioeconomic assistance must be rejected, end quote.

Vietnam also notes with satisfaction the position of non-govermental organizations in favor of the abolition of economic conditionality.

In conclusion, Mr. Le Mai once again stressed as it reintegrates into the world community after long years of war, Vietnam is resolved to contribute to the common human rights cause of the people of the world, so as together to build the society where all and everyone are entitled to peace, independence, freedom, prosperity and equity, and are provided conditions for their harmonious all-round development.

Projects Funded by Foreign Aid Reported

BK2706060793 Hanoi VNA in English 0543 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 27—The southern province of An Giang has put into operation an orphanage with the financial assistance of the Swiss Red Cross. The project cost 65,000 US dollars.

The province also has two other centres for supportless elders, handicapped people and orphans.

A community-based rehabilitation department was built in Duy Xuyen district, Quang Nam-Danang Province, with financial assistance from the World Vision.

Since its operation, the department has given physiotherapeutical treatment to 120 disabled people and helped them to enter the community. Moreover 140 other patients are being treated in the department.

The People's Committee of Khanh Hoa Province recently received a quantity of medical equipment and medicines worth 800,000 DM from the Medizinische Hilf Vietnam (an association for medical aid to Vietnam) in west Berlin. This is the ninth shipment of aid granted by the association to the province.

On this occasion, the people's committee of Khanh Hoa conferred the friendship medal on the president of the assocation, Mrs Ursula Nguyen.

The southern province of Tien Giang with the assistance of the Ho Chi Minh City Rehabilitation Centre and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) started to provide artificial limbs free of charge for poor handicapped people.

According to the Provincial Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs Service, the province now has more than 103,000 disabled people who need physical rehabilitation.

In recent years, the Oxfam organisation granted 2 billion dong (about 200,000 USD) to the southern province of Quang Ngai to build four irrigation and hydroelectric works. At present, three of the four projects are operational in service of agricultural production and lighting for the local people.

State Loses '13 Million' Dollars to Corruption

BK2806080893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0753 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Hanoi, June 28 (AFP)—The Vietnamese state lost 13 million U.S. dollars to corruption during the first six months of 1993, the trade union newspaper LAO DONG said Monday, citing Vietnamese police statistics.

The figures show that the number of corruption cases rose by 120 percent and the losses doubled compared to the same period in 1992, the newspaper said. It did not say if any money or goods had been recovered.

Some 448 corruption cases have been discovered since the beginning of the year resulting in the prosecution of 778 people, the newspaper said.

Corruption has particularly affected state-run sectors such as trade, finance, agriculture, industry, construction and transport with the complicity of some officials.

The Vietnamese Government set up an anti-corruption commission in 1991 and will be stepping up the fight this year against what it calls the "national scourge.

Illegal Arms Dealer Receives Death Sentence

BK2706142993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] In 15-19 June, the Military Court of the Military Region Four held a preliminary hearing on the severe charge of misappropriation and illegal trading of firearms and military equipment. The case was judged by Senior Colonel Nguyen Hoanh, chief justice of the Military Court of the Military Region Four.

In Nghia Dan District of Nghe An Province, in a period of few months, the three brothers of Le Dang Nguyen and his accomplices entered the M-16 Rifle storage at night and stole hundreds of M-16 rifles. They then traded the rifles through a racket led by Cao Xuan Phuong, born in 1968, self-employed, and residing in Bloc Two of Vien Chau Town of Nghe An; and Pham Hai Ninh, born in 1959, self- employed, and residing in Hai Ninh Town of Quang Ninh. The two men continued their racket and sold the rifles to hundreds of unemployed people for a profit.

Judging from their especially serious action and pursuant to the Criminal Code, the court sentenced Le Dang Nguyen to death, Cao Xuan Phuong and Pham Hai Ninh to life imprisonment, and 45 other culprits from 20 years in prison with a one-year good behavior bond. In addition to the assets which have already been confiscated, Le Dang Nguyen must pay more than 117 million dong to the government while other culprits must pay from 7 million to 79 million dong.

Australi

Minister: U.S. Attack on Iraq 'Understandable'

BK2706065093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0643 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] CANBERRA, June 27 (AFP)—Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said Sunday the U.S. strike on Iraq's intelligence headquarters was a proportionate response to the Iraqi government's continuing defiance. Recourse to any military action was always "a cause for regret and this strike is no exception", Evans said in a statement. "But nor is terrorist action ever defensible and today's response by the U.S. is, in all the circumstances, understandable."

The limited nature of the attack targetting Iraqi intelligence service headquarters could be seen as a proportionate response to what appeared another clear indication of Baghdad's continuing defiance of internationally accepted standards of behaviour.

"Australia has consistently called on Iraq to abide by its obligations under relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions and the United Nations Charter and does so again in the light of this recent incident," said Evans.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher sent Evans a message Sunday morning to explain the attack.

"The Americans regard the Iraqi plot against their former president as a direct attack on the U.S.," Evans said. "The Americans have acted unilaterally and have not sought to involve their coalition partners: Australia was not notified in advance, nor would we have expected to be."

Kurdish Demonstrators Take Over UN Office

BK2806020593 Hong Kong AFP in English 0207 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] SYDNEY, June 28 (AFP)—Around 25 Kurdish demonstrators took over the offices of the United Nations here Monday, demanding the Australian government take a stand against attacks on Kurdish civilians overseas. Police said one U.N. staff member was still at the United Nations Information Centre in Sydney's central business district, but could not confirm reports that a group had been taken hostage.

Police said the demonstration was a peaceful occupation of the offices and no weapons were involved.

"It's not a siege, it's a non-violent protest at this stage," a spokesman. [sentence as received]

Incident Ends; No Injuries

BK2806023493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0222 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] SYDNEY, June 28 (AFP)—A siege involving around 25 Kurdish demonstrators who took over the offices of the United Nations here Monday ended without serious incident. Police said no one was injured and there were no weapons involved. Several of the demonstrators were arrested, including children.

The two-hour siege began when the demonstrators entered the United Nations Information Centre in Sydney's central business district early Monday, demanding the Australian government take a stand against attacks on Kurdish civilians overseas.

Police said several U.N. staff members had been held in the building by the demonstrators.

The takeover came hours after three separate explosions in southern Turkey town of Antalya that left 23 people, including 12 foreign tourists and a three-year-old, injured. Turkish police blamed the attacks on separatist militants from the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK).

Kurdish militants also seized hostages in Turkish consulates in Europe last week.

The demonstration appeared to have been well organised, with a man claiming to represent the group handing out statements to waiting media at the police barriers. Ali Uslu said the group was angry at the failure of the Australian government to address their concerns. Uslu said the protest followed a hunger strike by local Kurds in January during which they had asked that the government take a stand against ongoing Turkish attacks on Kurdish civilians.

"The Turkish state has once again intensified its ongoing policy of earth scorching the countryside and forcefully evacuating villages in the part of Kurdistan under its control," Uslu said in the statement. "We believe that the Australian government can show some concern with such a serious humanitarian matter."

Uslu said among the protesters demands were that the government lodge a protest with Turkey for its attacks on Kurdish civilians, raise concerns with the U.S. and German governments, who they said provide Turkey with arms used against Kurds, and send a fact-finding mission to Turkey and Kurdistan.

Minister Discusses Illegal PRC Immigration

BK2706065693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0631 GMT 27 Jun 93

[By Jack Taylor]

[Text] SYDNEY, June 27 (AFP)—Australia has to be on its guard to prevent the arrival of shiploads of illegal Chinese immigrants threatening the country's orderly migration program, Immigration Minister Nick Bolkus warned Sunday. He said racketeers, possibly triads, were now involved in the sophisticated movement of large numbers of people from southern China, with up to 30 ships hovering in the north Pacific waiting to go to the United States.

One shipload had recently turned towards America after initially heading for Australia, he said in a television interview.

Bolkus said he recently had talks about these rackets in Washington and New York where he said there was concern the United States had put the green light out to refugees from China. If Washington suddenly "put a few red lights up," then the criminals organising the movement would obviously look elsewhere, he added.

"If we really want to protect our migration program, the sort of society we want to develop, then it's our responsibility to be on the alert."

Bolkus also defended Australia's much-criticised policy of detaining Cambodian boatpeople for up to three years at a time in detention camps. Canberra's refugee policy did not determine the length of detention but at the same time people found not to be refugees could not stay in the country, he said. If it had not been for delays outside the control of the immigration authorities and endless appeals against deportation by the boatpeople, they would have been back in Cambodia two years ago.

"If you then want to exercise further rights of appeal, if you want to explore and exploit avenues available to you and if you want to create more avenues, then I think you've got to accept with that the fact that detention goes with it," he said.

Bolkus's comments coincided with reports that the 20,500 refugee applicants—most of them Chinese—now in Australia will be protected from deportation for several months until completion of a class-action in the Federal Court. The action is related to the case of Zhang De Yong, a detainee in a West Australian camp who says he fears for his life if returned to China. Zhang claims the authorities here denied him fair treatment by refusing a personal interview in which it is suggested they would have been able to present a stronger case for asylum than if the applications were written. The action reportedly extends to 350 boatpeople now in detention camps.

Referring to the shiploads waiting outside the United States, Bolkus said neither Washington nor the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees saw them as refugees; rather they were indentured labour and "part of an organised racket."

"We've got to be concerned about sophisticated movements, criminal movements, of people," he said. "We're no longer talking about maybe a boatload of 30 or 40. We are talking about large numbers."

The illegal workers reportedly paid up to 30,000 dollars for their passage and paid it off as indentured labourers in sweatshop conditions for minimal wages.

Bolkus said that within hours of his return to Australia from the United States he was told about one particular boat heading here.

"The most recent briefings that I've had are that the boat has decided itself to turn around and it, too, is heading for a U.S. destination," he said. "I think we always have to be on alert that we don't become the victims of this cruel movement of labour."

Steel Firm Considers U.S. Plant To Avoid Duty

BK2706032293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0300 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] SYDNEY, June 27 (AFP)—Australian steel giant BHP is considering setting up a steel-making plant in the United States in retaliation for the threat by Washington to raise duties on steel imports, BHP chief executive John Prescott said Sunday. Prescott said the establishment of mills in the United States could be a way around punitive new duties—25 percent in the case of corrosion resistant steel—which is the major BHP export to the United States.

"BHP is not dumping and BHP is not causing injury to the United States steel producers," Prescott said.

Australia, in which BHP is the only steel exporter, was one of 19 steel-producing countries against which the U.S. Commerce Department last week imposed antidumping duties, accusing them of unfair competition. The threat was another blow in the growing trade war between Australia and North America following a month of rising tensions over issues like U.S. access to Pacific air-routes and attempts to expand sales of subsidized agricultural products into Australian markets.

Prescott said the United States should take into account that artificial barriers against other producers, whether BHP or anyone else, would invite that kind of retaliation "as a fairly normal response." It was possible in the United States and far more practical than it was 10 years ago for overseas companies to create their own steel plants there. The possibility of BHP setting up a plant in the United States "is something we've looked at."

"It could be any size, from quite small to quite large, based on mini-mill technology."

The U.S. action would not stop BHP exporting most of the steel that it produced, but the company would press its case to Washington over the next few weeks. BHP has said it will fight the decision in the International Trade Commission (ITC) and is confident it will be cleared of the dumping charge.

Washington hopes to get negotiations for a multilateral steel trade agreement moving again when representatives of the world's major steel producing countries meet in Geneva from July 7-8.